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President Barack Obama leaves "The Sweet Life Cafe" after dinner in Martha's Vineyard in Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts, August 23, 2010. The first family is on a 10-day summer vacation.

## Obama says not worried by Muslim "rumors"

By JoAnne Allen  
WASHINGTON — A public opinion poll showing Americans are increasingly convinced, wrongly, that he is Muslim does not trouble him, President Barack Obama said on Sunday.

"It's not something that I can, I think, spend all my time worrying about it," Obama said in an interview with NBC News, dismissing the results of a recent Pew Research Center.

"I'm not going to be worrying too much about whatever rumors are floating out there. If I spend all my time chasing after that, then I wouldn't get much done."

The Pew poll showed nearly one in five Americans -- 18 percent -- believe Obama is a Muslim, up from 11 percent in March 2009. □



A boy takes cover from a wave caused by the approaching of the Hurricane Earl in Fajardo, Puerto Rico, Monday, Aug. 30, 2010. Earl battered some islands across the northeastern Caribbean with heavy rain and roof-ripping winds Monday, rapidly intensifying into a major Category 3 storm on a path projected to menace the United States.

Associated Press

# Earl batters Caribbean, threatens U.S. East Coast

MIKE MELIA

Associated Press Writer

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Hurricane Earl battered tiny islands across the northeastern Caribbean with heavy rain and roof-ripping winds Monday, rapidly intensifying into a major Category 4 storm on a path projected to menace the United States.

Already dangerous with sustained winds of 135 mph, Earl is expected to gain more strength before potentially brushing the U.S. East Coast this week and bringing deadly rip currents.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami warned coastal residents from North Carolina to Maine to watch the storm closely.

"Any small shift in the track could dramatically alter whether it makes landfall or whether it remains over the open ocean," said Wallace Hogsett, a meteorologist at the center. "I can't urge enough to just stay tuned."

In the Caribbean, Earl caused flooding in low-lying areas and damaged homes on islands including Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla and St. Maarten. Several countries and territories reported power outages. Cruise ships were diverted and flights canceled across the region.

"We are getting a battering with wind and rain," said Martin Gussie, a police officer in Anguilla. Several utility poles were down and a couple of roofs had blown away, and it was still too dangerous to go out and assess the full extent of damage, he said.

The storm's center passed just north of the British Virgin Islands on Monday afternoon. It was gradually moving away from the Caribbean and was forecast to approach the U.S. Mid-Atlantic region around Thursday, before curving back out to sea, potentially swiping New England or far-eastern Canada.

Continued on Page A7

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# Rodents, other contamination found at 2 egg farms



**FILE** - In this Aug. 24, 2010 file photo, eggs with the British Lion mark are shown in London. The Lion Quality Code of Practice was launched in 1998 in Britain. The Lion marking the mark indicates that the eggs were produced according to a code of practice that requires vaccination against salmonella.

(AP File Photo)

By MARY CLARE

JALONICK,

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Food and Drug Administration investigators have found rodents, seeping manure and even maggots at the Iowa egg farms believed to be responsible

for as many as 1,500 cases of salmonella poisoning. FDA officials released their initial observations of the investigations at Wright County Egg and Hillandale Farms on Monday. The two farms recalled more than half a billion eggs after salmonella

illnesses were linked to their products earlier this month. The reports released by the FDA show many different possible sources of contamination at both farms, including rodent, bug and wild bird infestation, uncontained manure, holes in walls and other problems that could have caused the outbreak. Several positive samples of salmonella have been found at both farms.

The agency released the initial observations as their investigations concluded Monday. Officials said they still cannot speculate on the cause of the outbreak but said the farms not only violated their own standards but also new egg rules put in place this summer. Among the observations of the investigators:

- Live rodents and mice at both farms;
- Structural damage and holes in many locations at both farms, allowing wildlife

access;

- Escaped chickens tracking manure through the houses;

- Employees not changing clothing properly when moving from one location to another and not sanitizing equipment properly;

- “Live flies too numerous to count” on egg belts, in the feed, on the eggs themselves at Wright County Egg;

- Dead and live maggots “too numerous to count” on the manure pit floor in one location at Wright County Egg;

- Manure piled four to eight feet high in five locations at Wright County Egg, leaning against and pushing open doors that allowed wildlife to enter the laying houses;

- Nonchicken feathers in a laying house and wild birds flying in and out of two facilities at Wright County Egg;

- Manure seeping through the foundation to the outside of

laying houses in 13 locations at Wright County Egg;

- Rusted holes in feed bins and birds flying over the feed bins at Wright County Egg;

Animal feces and access to wildlife are normally the main concern of investigators looking for causes of an outbreak, as illnesses such as salmonella originate from feces. Michael Taylor, the FDA’s deputy commissioner for foods, said in a briefing for reporters Monday that the agency cannot say how these conditions compare to other egg farms around the country but he believes they are “significant deviations from what is expected.”

The agency has not traditionally inspected egg farms until there has been a problem. But the FDA will now inspect all of the nation’s largest farms by the end of next year, the Obama administration announced last week. □

## US grapples with bedbugs, misuse of pesticides

By MATT LEINGANG,

Associated Press Writer

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A resurgence of bedbugs across the U.S. has homeowners and apartment dwellers taking desperate measures to eradicate the tenacious bloodsuckers, with some relying on dangerous outdoor pesticides and fly-by-night exterminators.

The problem has gotten so bad that the Environmental Protection Agency warned this month against the indoor use of chemicals meant for the outside. The agency also warned of an increase in pest control companies and others making “unrealistic promises of effectiveness or low cost.” Bedbugs, infesting U.S. households on a scale unseen in more than a half-century, have become largely resistant to common pesticides. As a result, some homeowners and exterminators are turning to more hazardous chemicals that can harm the central nervous system, irritate the skin and eyes or even cause cancer.

Ohio authorities, struggling against widespread infestations in Cincinnati, Columbus, Dayton and other cities, are pleading with EPA to approve the indoor use of the pesticide propoxur, which the agency considers a probable carcinogen and banned for in-home use in 2007. About 25 other states are supporting Ohio’s request for an emergency exemption. EPA rejected the request in June. An agency spokesman, Dale Kemery, said the EPA has pledged to find new, potent chemicals to kill bedbugs, which can cause itchy, red bites that can become infected if scratched. In the meantime, authorities around the country have blamed house fires on people misusing all sorts of highly flammable garden and lawn chemicals to fight bedbugs. Experts also warn that some hardware products — bug bombs, cedar oil and other natural oils — claim to be lethal but merely cause the bugs to scatter out of sight and hide in cracks in walls

and floors. A pest control company in Newark, N.J., was accused in July of applying chemicals not approved for indoor use throughout 70 homes and apartments units, even spraying mattresses and children’s toys. No illnesses were reported.

In Cincinnati, an unlicensed applicator saturated an apartment complex in June with an agricultural pesticide typically used on golf courses. Seven tenants got sick and were treated at the hospital. The property was quarantined, and all tenants were forced to move. Authorities are pursuing criminal charges.

“When you see the anguish that bedbugs cause these people, it’s understandable why they might take things into their own hands, and some of it is very dangerous,” said Michael Potter, an entomologist at the University of Kentucky and one of the country’s leading bedbug experts.

Bedbugs, a common household pest for centuries, all but vanished in the 1940s and ‘50s



**FILE** - This 2008 file photo provided by Virginia Tech Department of Entomology shows mother and child bed bugs. Pest control company Terminix released a list Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2010 of the 15 most bedbug-infested cities, and New York, Philadelphia and Detroit have scratched their way to the top. Terminix released its report Tuesday, basing it on an analysis of call volume to the Memphis, Tenn.-based company’s 350 service centers. Insect scientists say bedbugs are appearing on a scale not seen since before World War II.

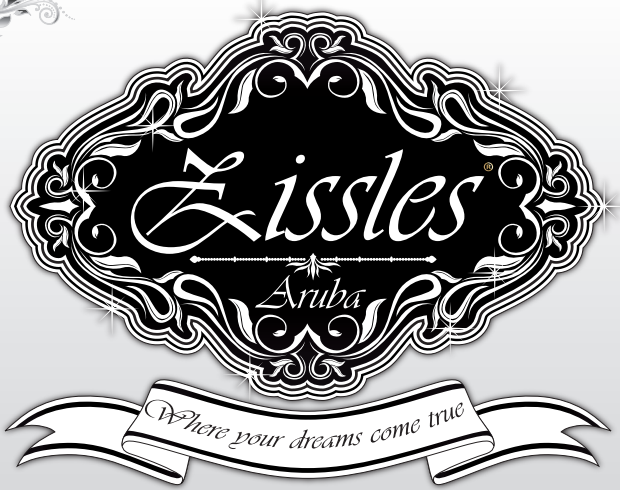
(AP Photo/Virginia Tech Department of Entomology, Tim McCoy, File)

with the widespread use of DDT. But DDT was banned in 1972 as too toxic to wildlife, especially birds. Since then, the bugs have developed resistance to chemicals that replaced DDT.

Also, exterminators have fewer weapons in their arsenal than they did just a few years ago because of a 1996 Clinton-era law that requires older pesticides to be re-evaluated based on more stringent health

standards. The re-evaluations led to the restrictions on propoxur and other pesticides. Though propoxur is still used in pet collars, it is banned for use in homes because of the risk of nausea, dizziness and blurred vision in children. Steven Bradbury, director of the EPA’s pesticide program, said the problem is that children crawl on the floor and put their fingers in their mouths. □





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## Fire at site of future Tenn. mosque troubles city

By LUCAS L. JOHNSON II  
TRAVIS LOLLER,

Associated Press Writers

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — A suspicious fire that damaged construction equipment at the site of a future mosque in Tennessee has some local Muslims worried that their project has been dragged into the national debate surrounding Manhattan's ground zero.

Authorities told leaders of the Islamic Center of Murfreesboro that four pieces of heavy construction equipment on the site were doused with an accelerant and one set ablaze early Saturday morning. The site is now being patrolled at all hours by the sheriff's department.

Federal investigators have not ruled it arson, saying only that the fire was being probed and asked the public to call in tips. Eric Kehn, spokesman for the Nashville office of the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, said arson is suspected.

The site has already seen vandalism, said Joel Siskovic, a spokesman for the FBI in the Memphis office. A sign at the site was spray-painted with the words "Not Welcome" and then torn in half. The FBI is investigating the fire in case it is a civil rights violation.

"We want to make sure there are not people acting with the intent to prevent people from exercising their First Amendment rights," Siskovic said.

Essam Fathy, chairman of the planning committee for the mosque, said he has lived in the city about 25 miles southeast of Nashville for almost 30 years and has never run into problems with his faith until now. He's concerned that outsiders could be involved.

"I don't think this is coming out of Murfreesboro," he said. "There were no issues at any time, even after 9/11, there were no issues. It just seems like there's a movement in the United States against Islam."

The debate in New York over a proposed Islamic community center and mosque two blocks away from ground zero has pitted advocates for religious freedom, including New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg

and President Barack Obama, against opponents who think it is insensitive to the victims of the terror attacks.

Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredesen, a Democrat, weighed in on the project for the first time on Monday.

"I guess I would ask everybody to remember that this is a country whose deepest origins are in religious freedom — it was founded by people who escaped to it to practice their religions — and to ask people to please have great respect for anyone's religious preferences and their rights to practice those in the United States. I think it goes right to the heart of what this country is about."

Supporters of the Tennessee mosque and some leaders in other faiths hope the fire could be a wake-up call to support religious freedom.

Two years ago, several men broke into the Islamic Center of Columbia, about 30 miles southwest of Murfreesboro, and torched it with molotov cocktails, stealing a stereo system and painting swastikas and "White Power" on the front of the building.

In some ways, the Muslim community in Columbia has emerged stronger than ever. After being welcomed at a local Presbyterian church for a few months, the group bought a new building with the support of people of many faiths from across Tennessee and across the country, Daoud Abudiab said.

But the firebombing affected him, and others, in ways that are harder to see.

"Every night, after that incident, I've activated the alarm at my house," he said. "Every night I arm it and I think of that incident and I think of my kids."

A candlelight vigil was planned Monday night in support of the Murfreesboro project by the group Middle Tennesseans for Religious Freedom, or MT4RF.

The group formed earlier this year to show support for the new mosque and Murfreesboro's Muslim community. Group leaders previously organized a counter-protest when mosque opponents marched on the courthouse in July demanding approval for the new mosque be rescinded. □



In a Saturday, Aug. 28, 2010 photo, Rutherford County Sheriff's Office and ATF investigators examine equipment damaged in a fire at the future site of the Islamic Center of Murfreesboro. Authorities told mosque officials that four pieces of heavy construction equipment on the site were doused with an accelerant and one set ablaze, said Camie Ayash, spokeswoman for the Islamic Center of Murfreesboro.

(AP Photo/The Daily News Journal, John A. Gillis)



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# Obama's goal: End Iraq war, then win Mideast peace



U.S. President Barack Obama delivers remarks at Xavier University in New Orleans, Louisiana, August 29, 2010.

By **BEN FELLER**,  
**AP White House Correspondent**

WASHINGTON — Firmly and finally ending the U.S. combat mission in Iraq, President Barack Obama will have but a moment before trying to hasten peace nearby between Israelis and Palestinians. Left unclear is whether winding down the war that inflamed Arab passions will do anything to help long-shot Mideast talks. From the Oval Office, a setting designed to command gravity and attention, Obama will declare Tuesday night that Iraqis are now the ones in charge of a war he had opposed. Within hours on Wednesday, he will be immersed in talks with Israeli and Palestinian leaders, underscoring the hopeful but precarious U.S. role as a middleman.

The White House is framing the two events as commitments kept by the president. But there is little excitement buzz and certainly no bold promises that capping the combat mission in Iraq will prod broader peace in the Middle East. Tuesday night, Obama's emphasis will be to thank the troops and explain why the fight goes on in Afghanistan and beyond — and not so much about the potential for Iraq to be “a beacon of liberty in the Middle East” as President George W. Bush put it.

In a narrow sense, the peace talks convened by the White House have little to do with Iraq. The Middle East stalemate has to do with the borders of a potential Palestinian state, the fate of Palestinian refugees, the status of Jerusalem, the security of Israel — and trust on both sides. Making progress on those points, not the Iraq war, is at the core of renewed talks between Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. Writ large, however, the fate of Iraq is indeed tied to prospects for peace for its neighbors in the region.

“There is no direct connection between the two issues, but I think together they tell the same story: the limits of U.S. power,” said Marina Ottaway, director of the Middle East Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. “The U.S. can only go so far, and then it's in the hands of the regional actors.”

Much depends on whether Iraq's leaders can form a lasting government, whether Iran will seek to exert added influence with a smaller U.S. presence in Iraq, and whether the United States will be perceived as the country that responsibly turned power back to Iraq or the one that left before the job was done.

“The more that Iraq emerges as a stable state after the Americans withdraw, the greater the chance for progress in the Middle East, the more it creates a stable environment for the

peace process to move forward,” said Robert Danin, an expert on Israeli-Palestinian affairs and senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. “To the extent that there's bloodshed and instability in Iraq, that makes it harder for people to focus on peacemaking.”

For now, a presidential speech about the changing of the U.S. mission in Iraq is as close to closure as the people of the United States will get.

All troops will not come home until the end of 2011 at the latest. The United States will still keep tens of thousands in a dangerous Iraq for support and counterterrorism missions in the meantime. More Americans are likely to die. As Obama has said: “We have not seen the end of American sacrifice in Iraq.”

Most of the more than 4,400 U.S. military members who have died in the Iraq war have been killed since May 2003 — after Bush declared the major combat operations over from the deck of a warship. His backdrop then was a now infamous banner that declared “mission accomplished.”

“You won't hear those words coming from us,” Obama spokesman Robert Gibbs said Monday.

The United States, too, is still absorbed with the a widening war in Afghanistan, the base for the al-Qaida terrorists responsible for the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. That conflict began in 2001, even before the Iraq war. Obama's stand is that the Iraq war, at a costly price, distracted from the cause in Afghanistan.

“That's where 9/11 was planned,” Gibbs said. “This is not an Afghanistan speech, but he will mention that.”

Obama is giving the combat troop withdrawal from Iraq a big spotlight.

He dispatched Vice President Joe Biden to Iraq on Monday to mark the moment and push Iraqi leaders for resolution of their political divisions. On Tuesday, Obama will fly to sprawling Fort Bliss in Texas, home of tens of thousands of service members who fought in the Iraq war. And then he will give just his second prime-time address from the Oval Office.

The Iraq war once filled the streets of some American cities with protest and, over time, generated much resentment in the Arab world. A lot of the heat at home has subsided, partly in response to an improving situation in Iraq that was aided when Bush ordered in more troops in 2007. Obama declared the war wrong and said he would end it, a mission a U.S. president actually could accomplish. He also promised to be deeply engaged in working for Middle East peace. His name is now prominently associated with that latter, more difficult goal. □

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## Man tied to girl's disappearance appears in court



This undated photo provided by the Kansas Attorney General's office shows Adam Joseph Longoria of Great Bend, Kan. Longoria is a person of interest in the death of 14 year-old Alicia DeBolt also from Great Bend. The Kansas Bureau of Investigation is asking for the public's help in finding Adam Joseph Longoria of Great Bend. The 36-year-old man is believed to be driving a stolen 2002 white Ford Explorer with 'Venture Corporation' lettering on the doors. The license plate is UGJ 366.

(AP Photo/Kansas Attorney General's office)

By ROXANA HEGEMAN,  
Associated Press Writer

GREAT BEND, Kan. — A man considered a person of interest in the death of a 14-year-old girl is a flight risk and a potential danger to the public, the Kansas attorney general told a judge Monday. Attorney General Steve Six said Adam Joseph Longoria had 13 prior felony convictions, including one for attempted escape. He is also wanted on a warrant out of Marion, N.C., accusing him of falsely reporting threats at an elementary school.

Longoria, 36, was arrested Friday driving an SUV reported stolen from a Great

Bend asphalt company where Alicia DeBolt's charred body was found just a few days earlier.

Six said at Longoria's first court appearance on charges of vehicular burglary and theft that stealing the SUV was a "desperate act" spurred by the investigation of DeBolt's death. He also noted Longoria of Great Bend mailed his personal belongings to Texas shortly before fleeing in the stolen vehicle.

Longoria appeared in court without an attorney. He told the judge he had cooperated with authorities "from day one," and that he wasn't a flight risk because law enforcement officials told him he wasn't being detained when questioned.

Barton County Judge Hannelore Kitts granted the prosecution's request for a \$150,000 bond and agreed to revisit conditions of release if he makes bond.

A hearing was set Sept. 6 to review the status of Longoria's legal representation.

Outside the courthouse, Six said prosecutors were not ready to call Longoria a suspect in DeBolt's death, and that authorities continued to pursue all leads.

"We will be making further decisions about what happens in that case based on the investigation and the facts we are continuing to work on," Six said. "This case is a tragedy. I think we saw that last night in the vigil that was held here in Great Bend."

About 2,000 people turned out for the Sunday night candlelight vigil to remember DeBolt.

Some of her young friends

wore flip flops and wrapped blue ribbons in their hair in honor of the teen they called "Babygurl," who would have started her freshman year of high school as a cheerleader on Aug. 23.

Alicia left her house at about 11 p.m. on Aug. 21 to go to a party, and her family reported her missing the next afternoon. Her body was found Tuesday. She was so badly burned that the coroner had to rely on dental records to identify the remains. Authorities have not said how she died.

"She didn't deserve to die the way she did," Erica Schwager, a 15-year-old friend, said tearfully.

Rev. Scott Solether, a pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Great Bend, said Alicia's death affected a lot of people in the community. Great Bend is a city of about 15,600 people about 95 miles northwest of Wichita.

"First, shock this would happen, then anger it would happen to someone so young, and then a lot of compassion," he said.

Longoria had only been out of prison for three months when authorities said the Highway Patrol caught him Friday off Interstate 70 near Salina.

The Kansas charges are the latest in a long rap sheet for Longoria, who was released May 25 from a Texas prison after completing a seven-year sentence for aggravated robbery. Records in Texas show Longoria has done time there since 1991 for charges including burglary, forgery, credit card abuse, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, escape from prison and evading arrest. □



This undated photo provided by the Hoonah Police Dept. shows officer Matt Tokuoka. Bob Prunella, acting city administrator for the village of Hoonah, says Tokuoka and fellow officer Tony Wallace died after a shooting late Saturday, Aug. 28, 2010.

(AP Photo/Hoonah Police Department)

## Records: Suspect had run-in with slain AK officers

By RACHEL D'ORO,  
Associated Press Writer

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — A man charged in the slayings of two police officers in a tiny Alaska village was accused of viciously attacking the same two officers while they were responding to a call about an intruder last year, court records show.

But assault and other charges filed against John Marvin Jr. in last year's alleged attack on Hoonah police officers Tony Wallace and Matt Tokuoka were dismissed in December.

The prosecutor assigned to the case declined Monday to say why the charges were dropped.

"Our office is reeling, and I'm not prepared to talk about it," said Amy Williams, an assistant district attorney. She added she doesn't want to risk jeopardizing the new case against Marvin.

Court documents allege both officers were injured in the August 2009 attack after they responded to a call from a woman who said Marvin entered her home without permission. The attack ended after the officers hit Marvin multiple times with their stun guns, and Wallace, a college wrestler, contained him in a "thigh lock," court records said.

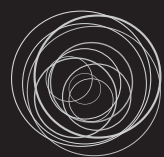
The documents also note Marvin's "mental health issues."

Marvin, 45, is accused of shooting Wallace and Tokuoka on Saturday night, then barricading himself in his home in Hoonah, located on an island about 40 miles west of Juneau. The officers died sometime after the shootings, said Bob Prunella, acting Hoonah administrator.

Marvin surrendered Monday morning following a standoff with authorities. A motive for the shootings has not been disclosed, and authorities have released few details.

During the standoff, troopers and other law enforcement agencies maintained their positions through the night into Monday, authorities said. Troopers had urged residents in the shoreline community of about 800 to stay away from the area. □





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# 7 U.S. troops die in bombings in violent south

**CHRISTOPHER BODEEN**  
Associated Press Writer

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Roadside bombs killed seven American troops on Monday — including five in a single blast in Kandahar — raising to more than a dozen the number who have died in the last three days.

The spike in deaths comes as President Hamid Karzai has publicly raised doubts about the U.S. strategy in the war, saying success cannot be achieved until more Afghans are in the front lines and insurgent sanctuaries in Pakistan are shut down.

NATO gave no details of the Monday blasts except that they occurred in the south, the main theater of the conflict, and that five were killed in a single blast.

Witnesses said the five died when a bomb struck a Humvee on a main road on the outskirts of Kandahar, the focus of an ongoing military campaign to secure the city that the Taliban used as their headquarters during their years in power. The attackers apparently targeted the Humvee because it was not as heavily armored as other vehicles in the convoy. Later Monday, a pair of rockets were fired at the Kandahar offices of the United Nations mission in Afghanistan. One fell short and slightly wounded a guard. The other overshot

the compound and exploded in an empty field, police said. U.S. death tolls for August had been running well behind those of the previous two months that set monthly records — 60 in June and 66 in July. But 14 Americans have been killed in the last three days, raising the American U.S. toll for the month to 49, most of them in the south.

NATO commanders have warned that casualties will mount as coalition and Afghan forces enter areas that have been under longtime Taliban control. The NATO force swelled this month to more than 140,000 — including 120,000 Americans — with the arrival of the last of the reinforcements that President Barack Obama ordered to Afghanistan in a bid to turn the tide of the nearly 9-year war.

With death tolls rising, Karzai has become more outspoken in his criticism of the U.S.-led war effort, telling recent visitors that the American counterinsurgency strategy is flawed.

Most recently, he told the visiting speaker of the German parliament that the campaign against the Taliban over the last eight years had been “ineffective apart from causing civilian casualties,” according to a statement by the presidential media office.



In this Friday, July 29, 2010 photo, U.S. soldiers carry a seriously wounded comrade from 1-320th Alpha Battery, 2nd Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division, to a medical helicopter as others attend PV2 James Stennett, who was caught in the blast of an improvised mine near COP Nolen, in the volatile Arghandab Valley, Kandahar, Afghanistan.

*Associated Press*

The statement quoted Karzai as saying Afghan forces should take the lead in efforts to win support from deeply conservative Afghan villagers who harbor suspicion of outsiders. That appears at odds with the strategy pursued by the top NATO commander, Gen. David Petraeus, which calls for U.S. troops to live closer to villagers to win their trust and protect them from the Taliban.

Last week, Karzai told a group of visiting U.S. congressmen that Obama's plan to begin withdrawing U.S. troops in July 2011 had given a “morale boost” to the Taliban and that the war could not be won until insurgent sanctuaries across the border in Pakistan are eliminated.

Meanwhile on Monday, a district governor in the eastern province of Nangarhar, Sayad Mohammad Palawan, was killed when a bomb planted

on his vehicle exploded as he was driving into a government compound in Jalalabad for a meeting of provincial security and political leaders, according to police spokesman Ghafor Khan.

Insurgents apparently planned for the bomb to explode inside the compound where it could potentially have caused far greater destruction, Khan said.

Elsewhere, NATO announced the arrest of an insurgent commander and several associates believed involved in a weekend attack on two NATO bases in Khost province of southeastern Afghanistan. Nearly 50 insurgents were killed in simultaneous attacks Saturday on Forward Operating Base Salerno and nearby Camp Chapman, where seven CIA employees died in a suicide attack in December. The commander was believed to be a member of the Haqqani

network, a Pakistan-based faction of the Taliban with close ties to al-Qaida.

Afghanistan's Defense Ministry reported Monday that four Afghan soldiers were killed and another wounded the day before in a roadside bombing in Wardak province. A fifth Afghan soldier was killed and another hurt in a bombing in Helmand province's Nad Ali district.

In the southeastern province of Zabul, 24 Taliban traveling by truck and motorcycle were captured while trying to cross the border into Pakistan, said provincial government spokesman Mohammad Jan Rasoolyar.

Five Taliban, including one regional commander, were also killed in fighting with coalition forces Sunday in Helmand province's Gereshik district, according to Daoud Ahmedi, spokesman to the provincial governor. □

Aruba TODAY



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## EARL

### Continued from Front Page

The Hurricane Center said it was too early to say what effect Earl would have in the U.S., but warned it could at least kick up dangerous rip currents. A surfer died in Florida and a Maryland swimmer has been missing since Saturday in waves spawned by former Hurricane Danielle, which weakened to a tropical storm Monday far out in the north Atlantic.

Craig Fugate, administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, said Earl's approach ought to serve as a reminder for Atlantic coastal states to update their evacuation plans.

"It wouldn't take much to have the storm come ashore somewhere on the coast," Fugate said. "The message is for everyone to pay attention."

Close on Earl's heels, Tropical Storm Fiona formed Monday afternoon in the open Atlantic. The storm, with maximum winds of 40 mph, was projected to pass just north of the Leeward Islands by Wednesday and stay farther

out in the Atlantic than Earl's northward path. Fiona wasn't expected to reach hurricane strength over the next several days.

The rapid development of Earl, which only became a hurricane Sunday, took some islanders and tourists by surprise.

Wind was already rattling the walls of Lila Elly Ali's wooden house in Anegada, the northernmost of the British Virgin Islands, when she and her son went out to nail the doors shut Monday.

"They say the eye of the storm is supposed to come close to us, so we've just got to pray. Everyone here is keeping in touch, listening to the radio," the 58-year-old said by phone from the island of 280 people.

At El Conquistador Resort in Fajardo, Puerto Rico, people lined up at the reception desk, the lights occasionally flickering, to check out and head to the airport. There, more delays awaited.

John and Linda Helton of Boulder, Colorado, opted to ride out the storm. The couple, celebrating their 41st wedding anniversary, finished a cruise Sunday and planned to spend

three days in Puerto Rico.

"There was a huge line of people checking out as we were coming in, and I thought it was just that summer vacation must be over," said John Helton, a real estate appraiser. "But we paid for the room, so we might as well stick it out."

"I don't think we could get a flight even if we wanted to leave," Linda Helton added.

There were no reports so far of major damage from Earl.

In St. Maarten, sand and debris littered the streets, and winds knocked down trees and electricity poles and damaged roofs. But police spokesman Ricardo Henson said there was no extensive damage to property.

Alisha Daya, a 24-year-old tourist from Milwaukee, wore earplugs but still had trouble sleeping overnight because of the wind and crashing waves at the Oyster Bay Beach Resort.

"It was loud because we were right on the ocean," Daya said, adding that the storm delayed their planned departure Monday but the worst seemed to be over.

In Antigua, at least one home



A sunken boat is seen after the passage of Hurricane Earl at the St. John's harbor, Antigua, Monday, Aug. 30, 2010. Earl battered some islands across the northeastern Caribbean with heavy rain and roof-ripping winds Monday, rapidly intensifying into a major Category 3 storm on a path projected to menace the United States.

Associated Press

was destroyed but there were no reports of serious injuries. Governor General Dame Louise Agnetha Lake-Tack declared Monday a public holiday to keep islanders off the road and give them a chance to clean up.

Jeremy Collymore, head of the Barbados-based Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency, said islands such as Antigua and Anguilla appeared to have been spared worse damage because they were raked by the system's

northwestern quadrant — the most forgiving part.

Mudslides and flooding were still a risk, with 4 to 8 inches of rain forecast to fall on islands including Puerto Rico.

The U.S. Virgin Islands imposed a curfew for Monday night.

The Hovenssa LLC oil refinery in St. Croix said operations were normal except for the harbor, which was closed along with all ports in the U.S. Virgin Islands by order of the Coast Guard. □

# Aqua Grill... "the hip restaurant that is heaven on earth for seafood lovers," Fodor's Travel Guide



Among the island's many fine restaurants, Aqua Grill is the premier seafood sensation. Excitingly prepared in an open-view kitchen, fresh local catches join delicacies from waters abroad, including live Maine lobster, Norwegian salmon, sashimi tuna, and Alaskan king crab, along with a selection of non-seafood dishes.

Aqua Grill's award-winning chef offers a menu of classic and contemporary dishes. The fresh

seafood is prepared in a variety of regional styles, melding local island charm with the traditions of New England, the spices of Jamaica, the zesty flavors of Italy, the mystique of Indonesia, and beyond.

In addition to a selection of authentic dishes, your seafood can also be prepared wood-grilled, broiled, poached, steamed, or pan-fried upon request. Complimenting the menu is the island's

largest raw bar and a generous wine list of over one hundred selections.

Set in a contemporary decor combining the traditions of a New England fish house with the ease and character of the Caribbean, Aqua Grill's warm, island hospitality is the final ingredient to the complete dining experience on Aruba.

Open nightly from 6pm to 11pm, 5:00pm to 11:00pm on Sunday. □



# Mexico has fired 10 pct. of federal police in 2010

ALEXANDRA OLSON

Associated Press Writer

MEXICO CITY (AP)

— Mexico's federal police agency has fired nearly 10 percent of its force this year for failing checks designed to detect possible corruption, a major obstacle in the country's battle against increasingly brutal drug gangs.

Mexico's approximately 35,000 federal police are required to undergo periodic lie detector, psychological and drug examinations, and the government routinely investigates their finances and personal life.

Federal Police Commissioner Facundo Rosas said 3,200 officers have been dismissed this year for failing to meet the agency's standards. He did not give more details.

The fired agents are barred from taking jobs in any other security force — a recurring problem that Mexican governments have vowed to solve for many years. Another 1,020 federal police are facing unspecified disciplinary measures.

Police corruption at all levels is widespread in Mexico. Police are often found to have been involved in cartel attacks, including the assassination two weeks ago of a mayor who had disciplined municipal



Federal police agents stand next to one of their vehicles after it crashed during a gun battle in the northern border city of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, Saturday, Aug. 21, 2010. At least one gunman was killed and three police officers were injured when gunmen attacked a municipal police patrol on a boulevard in Ciudad Juarez and the fighting escalated when federal police rushed to help. El Paso police closed that city's border highway for about 30 minutes because of the shooting.

officers in his northern town. Investigators say local officers aligned with the Zetas drug gang killed the mayor in retaliation.

Scandals have also ensnared the federal police.

Two years ago, a corruption probe known as "Operation Clean House" toppled the former anti-drug czar, Noe Ramirez, and other high-ranking police accused of protecting the Beltran Leyva

gang.

President Felipe Calderon, who has deployed tens of thousands of soldiers and federal police to fight drug traffickers in their strongholds, has pointed to the regular police tests and crackdowns such as "Clean House" as evidence that his government is aggressively fighting corruption.

Drug violence has surged since Calderon intensified the crackdown on traffickers upon

*Associated Press* taking office in late 2006, claiming more than 28,000 lives.

In the latest violence, a 12-hour battle between troops and gunmen left killed seven people in the eastern town of Panuco.

The gunmen opened fire and launched grenades at a government electricity station as they tried to escape the soldiers, causing a power outage in a large part of town, said Salvador Mikel Rivera, attorney general in the Gulf coast state of Veracruz, where Panuco is located.

The battle started Sunday night when gunmen in six cars ignored orders to stop from soldiers at a checkpoint, Rivera said. Soldiers, along with state and local police, started a chase that ended at two houses where the gunmen tried to hide, he said. The shootout at the houses lasted until Monday morning.

One soldier and six gunmen were killed.

Panuco is just south of the northern border state of Tamaulipas, where marines discovered the bodies of 72 Central and South American migrants believed to have been gunned down by the Zetas drug gang after refusing to smuggle drugs, in what may be the deadliest cartel massacre to date.

The lone survivor, an 18-year-old Ecuadorean, returned to his home country over the weekend after declining a humanitarian visa that would have let him stay in Mexico, the Foreign Relations Department announced Monday.

The dead migrants were discovered at a ranch about 100 miles from the U.S. border in Tamaulipas.

Violence has surged in northeastern Mexico this year since the Zetas broke ranks with their former employer, the Gulf cartel.

On Sunday, gunmen killed the mayor of Hidalgo, a town near where the migrants were slain. Two weeks earlier, the mayor of another northeastern town, Santiago, was assassinated, allegedly by police tied to the Zetas.

In June, cartel gunmen assassinated the leading candidate for governor of Tamaulipas, Rodolfo Torre Cantu, less than a week before state and local elections.

The government offered a 15 million peso (\$1.15 million) reward Monday for information leading to the capture of his killers.

Meanwhile, for the first time in its history, the border city of Ciudad Juarez is cancelling its traditional Sept. 15 celebration of Mexico's Independence from Spain, Mayor Jose Reyes announced Monday.

Reyes said authorities had not received any specific threat surrounding the event but decided it would be too dangerous for large crowds to gather in the city, which has become one of the world's most dangerous amid a turf war between the Sinaloa and Juarez cartels.

As in other Mexico cities, residents in Ciudad Juarez gather each year at the main plaza to hear the mayor give the "grito," or shout of independence, at 11 p.m. Reyes said the city would instead launch fireworks at different points in the city so people could celebrate from their own backyards.

The cancellation was especially a blow this year because Mexico is celebrating its bicentennial independence anniversary. □

## Indonesian volcano erupts after 400 years of quiet

BINSAR BAKKARA

MALCOLM RITTER

Associated Press Writers

TANAH KARO, Indonesia (AP) — Tens of thousands of people packed emergency shelters after a long-dormant volcano in western Indonesia spewed clouds of hot ash and smoke more than a mile into the air — an eruption that caught scientists off-guard.

The eruption of Mount Sinabung put the region on the highest alert level, and some domestic flights had to be diverted because of poor visibility.

Villagers living along Sinabung's fertile slopes in North Sumatra province started heading down the 8,000-foot volcano after it

began rumbling during the weekend.

An explosion Sunday was followed by a much more powerful blast Monday, and the number of people who evacuated hit 30,000, with hastily abandoned homes and crops blanketed in gray ash. The air was thick with the smell of sulfur.

Two people died, but Priyadi Kardono of the National Disaster Management Agency said it was too early to say if the volcano was to blame.

Sinabung last erupted in 1600, and officials acknowledged that they had not been monitoring the volcano because it had been dormant for so long.

"The nearest monitoring post



Mount Sinabung spews volcanic materials in Karo, North Sumatra, Indonesia, Monday, Aug. 30, 2010.

*Associated Press*

to Sinabung is Mount Merapi — around 400 kilometers (240 miles) to the southeast — so we were totally in the dark. We didn't know anything until it started rumbling," said Imam Simulingga, a government vulcanologist. □



# Gunman kills 7, wounds 15 in Slovakia

NADIA RYBAROVA  
VERONIKA OLEKSYN  
Associated Press Writers

BRATISLAVA, Slovakia (AP) — A gunman went on a rampage in Slovakia's capital on Monday, killing seven people and wounding 15, then committed suicide, officials said.

Five of the people killed were members of a Roma family who lived in an apartment where the man began his attack with a machine gun and two pistols, said Interior Minister Daniel Lipsic. Roma, also known as Gypsies, often face discrimination in eastern Europe, but Lipsic and police chief Jaroslav Spisiak said the unidentified gunman's motive was not known.

Another man shot and killed outside the building was "probably" also a member of the same family, Lipsic said.

"So far we don't know the motive ... so I will not speculate whether it did or did not have (a) racial motive," he told reporters. "I doubt it, but of course the investigation is ongoing."

The shooting took place at midmorning in the rundown Devinska Nova Ves neighborhood on the outskirts of the Slovak capital, surrounded by fields and industrial areas.

The five Roma who died in the apartment — four women and a man — lived in a brown high-rise building, Spisiak said.

Police rushed to the scene as the attacker, about 50 years old, was leaving the building, and he fired indiscriminately at people in the area, wounding 15, including a policeman and a 3-year-old boy who was shot in the ear, Lipsic said.

The seventh fatality was a

woman who was shot in the area as she walked to the balcony of her apartment when she heard the gunfire, Lipsic said.

Afterward, SME, a daily newspaper in Slovakia, released a photograph of a person it identified as the gunman. It shows a middle-aged man standing on a sidewalk and pointing a machine gun at an unidentified target overhead. The man appears to have planned the shootout because he is wearing device over his ears to protect his hearing.

The Slovak news agency TASR, referencing a police statement, identified the gunman late Monday as a 48-year-old local who was in legal possession of the weapons he used for the killing spree. Without citing a source, TASR also reported that the man died from a gunshot to his head.

Daniel Zitnan of Bratislava's Children's Hospital said the 3-year-old boy who was shot while riding in a car was only slightly hurt and released after treatment.

Renata Vandriakova — who heads the emergency room at one of Bratislava's hospitals and oversees the city's response to health emergencies — said one of the 15 wounded had to be operated on and was in critical condition.

Emergency crews blocked off the scene of the attack, which also includes a kindergarten and a supermarket.

Hours after the attack, stunned residents milled about in disbelief.

"I'm shocked," said 20-year-old Andre Smahovski, a student whose friend was injured in the attack. "Normally this doesn't happen here." Christian Padour, 40, described how



The provided by Slovakian Daily SME on Monday, Aug. 30, 2010 shows a man that SME identified as the gunman who killed six people and wounded at least nine in an attack in a neighborhood of Bratislava and then committed suicide.

Associated Press

his sister-in-law was at a doctor's office when a woman who had been shot by the gunman entered — to the horror of those present. "I feel safe here, but now it looks like the Wild West," Padour said. □

## Fishes & More showcases the best seafood entrees

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the world are found back on the menu and they are already well known for the daily changing specials. If you have a large party, or if there is anything you feel like in particular, Fishes & More can always arrange to have your dinner cooked just for you, as they work

only with fresh and honest products!

Ideally located in front of the Occidental Resort (Former Allegro), they are visited both by individuals and families alike, as they have a super kids menu, so they can enjoy their dinner as much as you

will yours!

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square are open until eleven. See what its like to experience real fresh dining joy with a twist!

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# LOCAL Aruba TODAY



## New Chief Of Mission At United States Consulate General Curacao

CURACAO / ARUBA - The Consulate General of the United States of America announces the arrival of the new U.S. Chief of Mission for the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba, Ms. Valerie Belon. She succeeds Mr. Timothy J. Dunn.

On August 26, 2010, Consul General Valerie Belon assumed her responsibilities as Consul General for the United States of America in the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba. As Consul General and Chief of Mission, she will remain responsible for Aruba and all islands of the Netherlands Antilles throughout the dissolution process as the senior representative of the United States Government.

Valerie Belon has enjoyed a 20-year career as a Foreign Service Officer in the U.S. State Department, specializing primarily in economic development, regulation, investment, and environmental issues. Most recently, she was the Senior Benelux Desk Officer at the State Department, taking the lead role for all Dutch and Luxembourg issues as well as overseeing the desk officer for Belgium.

*Continued on Page A11*

# Team Brazil wins the Aruba Pro-Am Golf Tournament 2010



WEST PUNT -- Aruba Tourism Authority, EZ-Go & Tierra del Sol Golf Course concluded the Aruba International Pro-Am Golf Tournament 2010 Sunday evening at a gala banquet after an action-packed weekend delivering great golf, cocktail parties, dinners under the stars and the opportunity to network and connect with international and amateur golfers from many different countries including the USA, St. Thomas, Holland, Aruba, Curacao, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Argentina

and the Netherlands.

While Team Brazil with golf pro Fernando Soares took first place, Team USA with golf pro Scott Nei came in second and Team Curacao with golf pro Berti Con, third.

Closest to the pin, pros Carlos Salazar, hole 7, and Angie Nguyen, hole 13, on Saturday, and pros Ricardo Pinto, hole 7, and Gary Williamson, hole 13, on Sunday.

*Continued on Page A15*



## Absolut Brand Ambassador Expert Joe Cabassa to give seminar in Aruba

PALM BEACH -- Pepia Est official distributor for Absolut Vodka invites you to Join an Absolut Brand Education Opportunity, that will take place at Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort on Tuesday, August 31st, 2010, with the 1st session at 9:30 am, and the 2nd session at 1:30 pm, under the guidance of Joe Cabassa, a world class Spirits Expert and a Master Bartender.

Joe Cabassa has a true passion for spirits, beverages and the art of Mixology. He is recognized by his peers in the industry as a Spirits Expert and a Master Bartender, true to his motto: "Educate with motivation, flair and enthusiasm."

Joe's career in the beverage and service industry started as a way to support himself while attending engineering school, in Puerto Rico.

He started in 1992 at Club Babaloo, where he first learned and practiced the art of Flair Bartending. In 1994 he won Puerto Rico's first flair bartending competition, aptly named "Quest for the Best Bartender in PR".

*Continued on Page A12*



'Got sand...play Beach Tennis!!'

# Aruba Aloe Beach Tennis event, hot and steamy!



EAGLE BEACH - Last Sunday BTA and Aruba Aloe organized the 7th ranking tournament of the year. There were a lot of 'new' players and especially the youth is coming up in huge numbers knocking on the door of the top players. That in combination with some tourist player made this event suitable for 'every body'! Special attendance by Greek champion Elpis Trelokomos who heard so much about the beach tennis mania in Aruba that he was here to check it out! He gave all he had but went out in the early rounds.. loosing to Bertrand Coulet/ Derrick Hernandez who are the first sponsored team in Aruba by beach tennis racquet brand Vision. They won the final after a

hard battle with 7-5 beating Ros/van Reek. BTA(Beach Tennis Aruba) is also proud to be officially part of the ITF world tour with their International tournament in November this year! Till that time the local players have plenty time to prepare and train for this \$ 10000.- event sponsored by Marriott Stellaris casino. Together with the US Open for Beach Tennis the Aruba tournament is rated G1 which means it's got the highest ranking among Beach Tennis tournaments in the world! This weekend Beach Tennis Aruba will travel to New York long beach to compete with the worlds best. Bertrand Coulet/Derrick Hernandez, Cado de Lannoy/Jochem Ros &



Marieke Buuts/Liza Blok are representing Aruba in the 'big apple'. For more info and/or register go to : [www.arubabeachtennis.com](http://www.arubabeachtennis.com) or call 5926421. BTA is powered by: Alno Kitchen, Amstel Bright, Aruba Aloe, ATA, AWA, Bacardi Mojito, Company 81, Deloitte, Inter Assure, Island Temptation, Powerade & Marriott Stellaris casino.

**Results:**  
**Fun ladies:**  
 1 Dorilis Werleman + Sherrel Werleman  
 2 Carola Hooft + Natalie Migo  
 3 Gabrielle Rasmioen + Jessie la Heye  
 3 Manon Hekman + Daniele Solognier  
**Fun men:**  
 1 Justin van Grinsven + Ale Garrido  
 2 Wouter van Maarseveen + Martin Griesdoorn  
 3 Sander Bekius + Liam Ramshorst  
 3 Robert Croes + Jerry Diaz  
**Fun mix:**  
 1 Maria Santa + Patrick  
 2 Monique Bouwer + Vernon Meulens  
 3 Joshua Posner + Arnalda Lampe  
 3 Jeroen de Bruin + Juliette van Doorn  
**Intermediate ladies:**  
 1 Annemarie Verblackt+ Karina Staring  
 2 Anoushka van den Broek + Sheryle Rodriquez  
 3 Roos Poels + Dianne  
 3 Claudia Florez + Henriette Snauw  
**Intermediate men:**  
 1 Samer Hamawi + Sebastian

Montoya  
 2 "Big papi" Hughes + Mathilda  
 3 Jossy Mansur + Louis Posner  
 3 Alexander Drop+ Roger van Riet  
**Advanced ladies:**  
 1 Ashley + Lotte van Reek  
 2 Jeanine Meijer + Ilonka Nijhuis  
 3 Janien Huistra en Esme Hendriks  
 3 Daisy Faro + Rynne Kock  
**Advanced men:**  
 1 JD Douglas+ Ryan Ollock  
 2 Alex Lovera + William van Ramshorst  
 3 Jenner Florez + Adolfo Valvueno  
 3 Edwin Hekman + Harry Koppes  
**Advanced mix:**  
 1 Norman Helmeyer + Kamilah Dammers  
 2 Maïke van Paridon + Aat Hoek  
 3 Paulien ter Meulen + Rick van Dijk  
 3 Sascha Nieuwenhuis+ Patrick Chaos  
**Pro ladies:**  
 1 Manon van Zwieten + Yvonne Balgooi  
 2 Marieke Buuts + Claire Ros  
 3 Roos de Hart + Virginia Melendez  
 3 Tina Escebedo + Jolanda Overbeek  
**Pro men:**  
 1 Bertrand Coulet + Derrick Hernandez  
 2 Jochem Ros + Harry van Reek  
 3 Dennis Schoneveld + Fabrizio Battaglia  
 3 Aksel Imac + Sergio Fie Sam Yoek



## At United States Consulate General Curacao

Continued from Page A10

From August 2008 until June 2009, Valerie Belon managed all outreach and public diplomacy efforts related to the Summit of the Americas in the Bureau for Western Hemisphere Affairs, which culminated in President Obama's participation in the Summit hosted by Trinidad and Tobago in April 2009. Her overseas postings began in 1991 with a war-time assignment to Congo-Brazzaville, where she coordinated the evacuation of over 3,000 American citizens, including many remotely-located Peace Corps volunteers and missionaries. She ended her Africa tour as Acting Deputy Chief of Mission during a period of civil unrest with dusk-to-dawn curfews. She also completed assignments at the U.S. Embassies in Belize City (1995-1998), Panama City (1999-2002), and Paris (2002-2006).

Consul General Belon is fluent in French and Spanish. Prior to joining the Foreign Service, she worked in the U.S. Senate as a legislative staff assistant. She earned a degree in Economics from Princeton University, a Masters in Business Administration from the University of California Los Angeles, and a Master's degree in International Policy Studies from Stanford University. Valerie Belon was born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska, and has family ties to California and France. She resides in Willemstad with her pre-school-aged daughter, Lucy. □





## Expert Joe Cabassa to give seminar in Aruba

*Continued from Page B10*

He then represented PR in "The Quest for the Best Bartender in America" on Pleasure Island's Mannequins Club in Orlando, FL., where he ranked in the top 10 bartenders in America. In 1999 he was invited to the 1st "Legends of Bartenders in the World" in Las Vegas Nevada.

In this competition he reaches the finals with his skillful "speed & accuracy."

From 1993 to 1997, Joe Cabassa was part of the trainers' team of the renowned International restaurant Hard Rock Café (HRC). In the course of his duties he successfully trained dozens of Bartenders, Servers and bar managers in spirits and beverage knowledge, bar management and the art of mixing cocktails in San Juan, Puerto Rico; Buenos Aires, Argentina and St. Tomas, USVI.

Since 1997, his unique style of combining brand knowledge with innovating service philosophies and new mixology trends, has gain him the privilege of working as Brand Ambassador of many prestigious brands such as Chivas Regal, Absolut, Jameson, among many others.

In the past 13 years as Brand Ambassador he has educated and trained thousands of people in the beverage and service industry (bar managers, Bartenders, brand managers, sales teams, consumers) in over 70 cities in 33 countries around the world; from Beijing to Buenos Aires, from New York to Sau Paulo, and now also in Aruba at the Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort, Tuesday, August 31st with the 1st session at 9:30 am, and the 2nd session at 1:30 pm. □

*AHATA, together with Digicel, to recognize the best in tourism*

# Shoco Jury has begun the evaluation process of 2010 nominees

ORANJESTAD – An independent jury, composed of members Annelien Tromp, Carlos Albertus and John Wardlaw, are currently undertaking the difficult task of assessing candidates for the 2010 Shoco Awards of Excellence. The annual awards program, organized by AHATA, with its signature alliance partner Digicel, recognizes the 'best of the best' in tourism, in categories including Employee of the Year, Supervisor of the Year, Manager of the Year, Young Tourism Professional and Lifetime Achievement Award. The 2010 awards, launched earlier this year, culminated in several strong candidates in each category, with nominees recently submitted by AHATA-member companies. The applications are now under review by the jury, which reconvened just last week for the 2010 awards. Over the next two weeks, the judges will continue to meet in closed meetings in deciding who will move on to the second round and be brought in for one-on-one interviews.

The Shoco awards were first established in 2005 to recognize excellence and quality service in hospitality. Each nominee from AHATA-member companies is judged according to criteria that assess technical skills, hospitality, leadership, self-development and community involvement, and entails the submission of documentation

of histories within their respective companies.

Although AHATA organizes the program, and has received tremendous support from Digicel as the exclusive sponsor of the Shoco awards, the selection of winners are ultimately a decision left in the hands of the independent Shoco jury. Jury members each hold a wealth of knowledge of tourism, and of its foundation in customer service.

"The 2009 jury members -- Annelien Tromp, a manager with Caribbean Mercantile Bank, Carlos Albertus, Managing Director of B&P Interface International N.V. Training and Consultancy, and John Wardlaw, a professor at the University of Aruba --



are each uniquely qualified in their positions of Shoco judges and have shown the utmost dedication and professionalism in carrying out the duties of their important role within the awards program," comments AHATA CEO & President James Hepple. "We are pleased to have secured such a prestigious jury, who are willing to selflessly contribute their own valuable time in

helping us recognize role models within the tourism industry."

The 2010 Shoco Awards of Excellence will be presented in a ceremony to be held this year on October 15. The AHATA/Digicel Shoco Awards Ceremony will be an all-out event in which award winners will be given well-deserved recognition and appreciation. □





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## 1st monthly Aruba Culinary Festival on September 6 at Divi Links



ORANJESTAD - For an exciting taste of Aruba and cultural experience, the Aruba Culinary Festival will take place on the first Monday of every month at the scenic outdoor plaza of Divi Links (next to Clubhouse). The first installment will be held on Monday, September 6, 2010 from 6 – 9 pm. Restaurants of the Aruba Gastronomic Association (AGA) will be serving their delicious signature dishes and Arion Wine Company will be pouring its fine vintages. Local artists and artisans and live music will lend an authentic Aruban touch while Tattoo, Mi Dushi and Kukoo Kunuku add to the fun.

Savor the international flavors of AGA and Divi restaurants such as Amazonia, Aqua Grill, Driftwood, French Steak House, Gasparito, Giorgio's, La Trattoria El Faro Blanco, Mulligan's and Windows on Aruba. Learn more about food and wine, compliments of a professional chef and a wine specialist.

Admission of US \$ 15.00 (avg. 25,-) includes 4 food tickets plus 2 wine tickets (or 4 soft drink tickets). The Aruba Culinary Festival, perfect for locals as well as tourists, is sponsored by Divi Resorts and the Aruba Gastronomic Association. Don't miss it!

For more information, contact Aruba Gastronomic Association at 586 1266 or 592 6244. □



# Aruba Marriott Celebrates 15 Years with Loyal Guests Mr. & Mrs. Hallak



Present at the occasion: Mr. & Mrs. Hallak, VP & General Manager Kevin Schwab, Dir. Of Sales & Marketing Antoinette van den Berg, Sales Manager Roosje Jacobs and Dir. Of Revenue Management Carlos Olguin.

PALM BEACH, ARUBA Marketing department – As a part of the 15th honored loyal guests Mr. anniversary of the Aruba and Mrs. Hallak for their Marriott, the Sales and continued support to the

hotel. The couple from Argentina has been visiting Aruba for over 30 years

and has been staying at the Aruba Marriott since the opening in 1995.

“The climate of Aruba is fundamental to us. We arrive in Aruba enjoying the sun and by the end of our vacation, the sun is still shining.” We consider Aruba as our home away from home,” says Mr. Hallak smiling. To celebrate this occasion Mr. and Mrs. Hallak

received a special certificate from the resort. Vice president and General Manager Kevin Schwab thanked the couple for their loyalty to the hotel with a glass of champagne. The Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino looks forward to welcome Mr.

and Mrs. Hallak again.

Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino boasts 411 guestrooms – the most spacious on the island – each with large, private balconies overlooking lush landscape and the sparkling waters of the Caribbean Sea. On property, seven restaurants and cafes provide fare from light to elegant, while the largest casino in Aruba, a 6,500 square-foot spa, free-form swimming pool with cascading waterfalls and high-energy health club offer entertaining diversions.

Marriott and Renaissance Caribbean & Mexico Resorts is comprised of ten resorts in seven of the top tropical destinations in the Caribbean and Mexico – Aruba, Cancun, Curaçao, Grand Cayman, Puerto Vallarta, St. Kitts and St. Thomas. To experience these resorts and learn about special promotions, please visit the new [www.ParadiseByMarriott.com](http://www.ParadiseByMarriott.com).

M A R R I O T T INTERNATIONAL, INC. is a leading lodging company with more than 3,400 lodging properties in 68 countries and territories. The company is headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, USA and had approximately 137,000 employees at 2009 year-end. It is recognized by FORTUNE® as one of the best companies to work for, and by Newsweek as one of the greenest big companies in America. In fiscal year 2009, Marriott International reported sales from continuing operations of nearly \$11 billion. □



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# Team Brazil wins the Aruba Pro-Am Golf Tournament 2010



*Continued from Page B10*

The Aruba International Pro Am Tournament was launched at a Welcome Reception on Friday, then went on to feature brunch at Ventanas del Mar restaurant on Saturday, a BBQ dinner on the lawn overlooking the California Lighthouse, Saturday night, Champagne brunch on Sunday and a Gala Award party with trophies and prizes to winners, Sunday night. Golf Pro Adam Williamson reports that 24 teams enjoyed the island's hospitality, each team made up of 4 amateur golfers and one pro. The tournament, explains Williamson, is designed to promote Aruba as a golf destination. Each year, the international representatives of the Aruba Tourism Authority prepare for this world-class golf-event by running "Copa Aruba," a local golf tournament in their respective countries around the globe. The winners of those local tournaments are selected to play here at the Aruba International PRO-AM Golf Tournament, which unfolded for the 16th time, August 27th to 29th at Tierra del Sol. The tournament was sponsored by Balashi Beer, AWA & Samuel Adams, Colombian Emeralds International, Aruba Aloe, Divi Links, and TopCar offering a car for the winner of a-hole-in-one during the two-day tournament and Tierra del Sol Vacation Rental program raffled off a two-day vacation.

Helping host players during their stay, Divi Village and Tierra del Sol's villa rental department.

Pictured here snapshots from the award ceremony with the former Miss Aruba, Irene Croes, assisting Fritz Israel of Aruba Tourism Authority and golf pro Adam Williamson with the presentation.

The culinary team of Ventanas del Mar restaurant, in collaboration with the banquet department prepared an excellent dinner affair with Tuna & Crab Tataki appetizers, followed by Seabass & Shrimp main courses, impressing visitors with the level of cuisine and service on the island. □



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**TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT** of the menu is the *Ossobuco di Vitello con Tagliatelle* which is a mouth watering Veal Ossobuco (shank) stewed with red wine, parsley, Rosemary, oregano, onions and lemon juice served with the most unique Tagliatelle. After the first bite, patrons are seen pinching themselves to see if they are dreaming or actually taking a true bite of seventh heaven.

The menu doesn't stop there as Casa Tua features incredible appetizers including shrimp



bruschetta, fresh marinated seafood, escargots, amazing salads, homemade soups starting at \$8 and authentic Italian lasagnas & pastas starting at just \$13. The staff at this popular eatery has set the standard on the island for the term "great service" not only with your dining pleasure, but recognized as 'the' professionals in assisting guests with the perfect cocktail, paired wine or other beverages.

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course is a choice of catch of the day (prepared your way), Jumbo Shrimp or for the meatlovers Filet Mignon or Chicken Breast. The evening is topped with a grand dessert and coffee or tea.

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# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News

Email: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com)

Tuesday, August 31, 2010



This photo taken Aug. 26, 2010, shows Los Angeles Dodgers' Manny Ramirez in the dugout before their baseball game against the Milwaukee Brewers in Milwaukee. Reports have Ramirez going to the Chicago White Sox on Monday Aug. 30, 2010.

## Manny Ramirez joins Chicago White Sox

By TOM WITHERS  
AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND — Manny Ramirez will have to follow two nonnegotiable rules if he's going to play for White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen. No. 1: Stretch with your teammates.

No. 2: Be on the field for the national anthem.

That's it. Well, he may have to trim the dreadlocks. But that's about it.

"I want him to feel comfortable here," Guillen said Monday. "I want him to like it here. I want him to have fun and I want him to be Manny."

Back to frighten pitchers who haven't seen him regularly in a few years, Ramirez will try to get Chicago back to the AL playoffs.

*Continued on Page B6*

# Open for business

Kim Clijsters of Belgium serves to Greta Arn of Hungary during the first round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Monday, Aug. 30, 2010. Clijsters won the match 6-0, 7-5.



## Warning Shot



Brazil's Leandro Barbosa, left, goes up for a shot as USA's Kevin Durant defends during the preliminary round of the World Basketball Championship, Monday, Aug. 30, 2010, in Istanbul, Turkey.

*Associated Press.*

*Page B5*



## SPORT BRIEFS

## Gilbert wins third stage at Spanish Vuelta

MARBELLA, Spain (AP) — Philippe Gilbert of Belgium has taken the overall lead in the Spanish Vuelta by winning the third stage after pulling away from Spaniards Joaquin Rodriguez and Igor Anton to sprint alone to the finish line.

The Pharma-Lotto rider clocked 4 hours, 6 minutes, 12 seconds on Monday to finish 3 seconds ahead of Rodriguez and 13 seconds ahead of Anton.

Gilbert said he was familiar with the course, which helped him stave off a challenge by Liquigas riders, adding that “the climb up the Gibralfaroes summit benefited me.”

Rodriguez is second in the overall standings, 14 seconds behind Gilbert and



Philippe Gilbert of Belgium and Omega Pharma-Lotto reacts on the podium after the third stage of La Vuelta of Spain in Malaga on Monday, Aug. 30, 2010.

*Associated Press*

22 seconds ahead of third-place Kanstantsin Sivtsov of Belarus.

Tuesday's fourth stage is a 114.2-mile ride from Malaga to Valdepenas de Jaen. □

## NFL star's hair insured for \$1 million

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The long, flowing black hair that tumbles out of NFL star Troy Polamalu's helmet and down his back has been insured for \$1 million by Head and Shoulders, the shampoo brand that is endorsed by the Pittsburgh Steelers player. The insurance was obtained through Lloyd's of London, which did not reveal what must be done to Polamalu's hair for anyone to collect on the policy. At nearly three-feet long, Polamalu's hair has been targeted by an opposing NFL player at least once — the Chiefs' Larry Johnson tackled Polamalu by the hair during a 49-yard interception return in a 2006 game. Polamalu, a five-time



Pittsburgh Steelers safety Troy Polamalu talks with a teammate during the first quarter of a preseason NFL football game against the Detroit Lions in Pittsburgh, Saturday, Aug. 14, 2010.

*Associated Press*

Pro Bowl player, wears his hair long as a tribute to his Samoan heritage. □

*WNBA Playoffs*

## Catchings leads Fever past Liberty

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Tamika Catchings had 17 points and 13 rebounds to help the Indiana Fever beat the New York Liberty 75-67 on Sunday to level their best-of-three Eastern Conference semifinal series.

Catchings, who was selected the league's defensive player of the year earlier in the day, helped the Fever fight off elimination and earn one more chance to defend their Eastern Conference crown. Game 3 is Wednesday at New York, with the winner advancing to face Atlanta in the conference finals.

New York had won 12 of its previous 13 games, but the Fever held the Liberty to 37 percent shooting. Essence Carson scored 24 points and Cappie Pondexter had 20 for the Liberty. □

## Roger Clemens pleads not guilty to charge of lying



Seven-time Cy Young winner, baseball pitcher Roger Clemens leaves federal court in Washington, Monday, Aug. 30, 2010, after pleading not guilty to charges of lying to Congress about whether he used steroids or human growth hormone. His attorney Rusty Hardin is at left.

*Associated Press*

**JESSE HOLLAND**

*Associated Press Writer*

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former baseball great Roger Clemens pleaded not guilty Monday to charges of lying to Congress about whether he used steroids or human growth hormone.

When asked for a plea by U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton, the retired Major League Baseball pitcher said in a clear voice: “Not guilty, your honor.” Clemens, wearing a suit and tie, was appearing in federal court only a few blocks away from where he swore under oath to a House committee in 2008 that he had not used performance-enhancing drugs.

Clemens, who pitched for the Boston Red Sox, Toronto Blue Jays, New York Yankees and Houston Astros, entered his plea in U.S. District Court.

Federal prosecutors didn't believe Clemens' testimony to Congress, and they subsequently charged him with making false statements, perjury and obstruction of

Congress.

The 48-year-old Clemens had vowed to fight the charges.

At Clemens' arraignment Monday, U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton set an April 5 date for choosing a jury.

If convicted on all charges, Clemens could face up to 30 years in prison and a \$1.5 million fine, though under U.S. sentencing guidelines, he would probably face no more than 15 to 21 months in prison. However, a conviction could also cause catastrophic damage to his reputation, future earning potential and his chances of getting into baseball's Hall of Fame.

Clemens was being arraigned on three counts of making false statements, two counts of perjury and one count of obstruction of Congress.

He came to Congress after being mentioned repeatedly in the Mitchell Report — the damning breakdown of the sport's steroid problem released in 2007.

In front of a House committee the next year, Clemens said: “Let me be clear. I have never

taken steroids or HGH.”

Before his indictment was handed down Aug. 19, Clemens was offered a plea deal that he turned down, and afterward, he showed no signs of backing down.

“I look forward to challenging the Governments accusations, and hope people will keep an open mind until trial,” Clemens wrote on Twitter after the indictment. “I appreciate all the support I have been getting. I am happy to finally have my day in court.”

His day in court figures to be one of many in the near future for some of baseball's biggest names — now sullied by steroid-related accusations. All-time home run king Barry Bonds is scheduled to go on trial in March on charges of lying to a federal grand jury when he said he never knowingly used performance-enhancing drugs.

At the hearing in front of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Clemens' former trainer, Brian McNamee, said the pitcher did, in fact, use steroids and HGH. Former teammate Andy Pettitte also told congressional investigators that Clemens told him he had used HGH. Clemens told Congress that Pettitte “misremembers” the conversation.

All that testimony figures to be rehashed in a trial that could irrevocably tarnish the reputation of one of the most dominant pitchers in history. Clemens won the Cy Young award — given to the top pitcher in the American League and National League — a record seven times, and helped the New York Yankees win two World Series titles. Over 23 seasons, Clemens recorded 354 wins, 4,672 strikeouts and an ERA of 3.12 — Hall of Fame numbers that might not land him in the Hall of Fame. □



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## Clijsters wins first U.S. Open match in straight sets

RACHEL COHEN

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Defending champion Kim Clijsters briefly lost her footing on a windy day before recovering in time to win her 15th straight match at the U.S. Open.

The second-seeded Belgian beat Hungary's Greta Arn 6-0, 7-5 in the first round Monday. She fell behind 4-0 in the second set, and the 104th-ranked Arn had a chance to serve out the set at 5-4. But Clijsters got the break, then did it again to clinch the straight-set victory.

Clijsters said she wasn't aggressive enough playing with the wind, waiting for the ball instead of moving up for it.

"She kind of put me under pressure a little bit where it should have been the other way around," she said.

A year ago, Clijsters was a wild-card entry in only her third tournament back after 2½ years away from the sport. Now she's one of the favorites to win the Open.

"Other players kind of didn't really know what to expect," Clijsters said.

Melanie Oudin and Francesca Schiavone also know how quickly perceptions can change. Oudin struggled with higher expectations since her crowd-pleasing run to the U.S. Open quarterfinals last year. So did Schiavone after her breakthrough French Open title in June.

But neither showed any signs of the pressure in cruising to dominant first-round wins.

Oudin, 18, needed just 56 minutes to beat Olga Savchuk of Ukraine 6-3, 6-0. Schiavone,

the Italian who won her first Grand Slam weeks before her 30th birthday, dispatched Ayumi Morita of Japan 6-1, 6-0 in 58 minutes.

If anything, Schiavone seems to be having fun in the spotlight. Asked why she's a fan favorite, she playfully replied, "I attract them because I'm beautiful."

Schiavone acknowledged that maybe she's a bit more motivated at a Grand Slam than at other tournaments. Schiavone, seeded No. 6, had been just 3-6 since winning at Roland Garros.

She lost in the first round at Wimbledon and dropped her opening match at three other tournaments.

She was pleased that her first-round match was in the grandstand — a year ago, she was relegated to an outer court.

"I like to do it, because adrenaline is coming up and I enjoy much more than play in faraway court," she said with a laugh. "Maybe because I am 30 years old and now I want to enjoy with people."

Venus Williams, a two-time champion in New York, and Roger Federer, who counts five U.S. Opens among his record 16 Grand Slam titles, were scheduled to play in the night session.

The ninth-seeded Roddick celebrated his 28th birthday by beating Stephane Robert of France 6-3, 6-2, 6-2.

Roddick, who recently discovered he had a mild case of mononucleosis, was under doctor's orders to limit his physical activity, but he said he feels a lot better now than he did a month or so ago.

"It's going the right way," he said. "To be honest, once you decide to play, I think you throw all the excuses and everything else out the window. If I decide to play, then it's up to me to give 100 percent of what I have. So it's not something I really want to discuss too much from this point forward."

Two-time French Open runner-up Robin Soderling was pushed to five sets by a qualifier ranked 214th in the world. The No. 5-seeded Swede beat Andreas Haider-Maurer of Austria 7-5, 6-3, 6-7 (2), 5-7, 6-4.

Other winners included No. 6 Nikolay Davydenko of Russia, No. 11 Marin Cilic of Croatia, No. 13 Jurgen Melzer of Austria, No. 17 Frenchman Gael Monfils and No. 22 Juan Carlos Ferrero of Spain, while No. 27 Fernando Gonzalez Chile quit in the third set of his match against Croatia's Ivan Dodig because of a knee



Andy Roddick of the United States hits balls into the stands for the fans after he beat Stephane Robert of France during the first round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Monday, Aug. 30, 2010. Roddick won the match 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 on his 28th birthday.

Associated Press

injury.

Women moving into the second round included French Open runner-up Sam Stosur of Australia, two-time major finalist Elena Dementieva of Russia, Belarusian No. 10

Victoria Azarenka, No. 13 Marion Bartoli of France, No. 16 Shahar Peer of Israel, and No. 24 Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia, who beat Russian former No. 1 Dinara Safina 6-3, 6-4. □

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# Gatlin gets first real test of comeback

ANDREW DAMPF

AP Sports Writer

ROVERETO, Italy (AP) — Former Olympic 100-meter champion Justin Gatlin is looking forward to the first serious test of his return from a four-year doping ban.

In Tuesday's Palio della Quercia meet, the American will face three runners who have beaten the 10-second mark this season: Johan Blake (9.89) and Mario Forsythe (9.95) of Jamaica and Ryan Bailey (9.88) of the United States.

Bailey and Forsythe set their times in Sunday's Rieti Grand Prix.

Gatlin has posted victories at three minor meets in Estonia and Finland since being cleared to compete again, although his fastest time was 10.17.

"When you have a race like this here, where you have guys coming off running 9.8's and keep having season's

bests after every race you don't really look for a time, you just try to go out there and compete with them and the time will come," Gatlin said in an interview with The Associated Press on Monday. "I don't want to bog my mind down with too much. I'm just going to worry about technically running a good race and giving some good competition." Gatlin won gold in the 100 at the 2004 Athens Olympics in 9.85, then tested positive in April 2006 for excessive testosterone. He used to command expensive appearance fees, but meet director Luigo D'Onofrio said the only money Gatlin will take home here is a small prize if he finishes in the top six, just like most other entrants.

The first-place prize is €1,800 (\$2,285).

"We wouldn't have accepted anything else," D'Onofrio said. "If he wants to race under the same conditions



Klitschko will meet Briggs for a title fight in the O2 World Arena in Hamburg, Germany, on Saturday, October 16, 2010. Former world heavyweight champion Shannon Briggs says he will make current champion Vitali Klitschko his "30-second first round victim" in their forthcoming fight in Hamburg.

*Associated Press*

ANNA MELNICHUK,

Associated Press Writer

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Former heavyweight champion Shannon Briggs plans to make current WBC titleholder Vitali Klitschko his "30-second, first-round victim" when they fight in October. "That's how a lot of my fights end," Briggs said Monday in Kiev.



Former Olympic champion Justin Gatlin, left, finishing the men's 100 meter race during ERGO World Games Tallinn 2010, in the Estonian capital Tallinn, Sunday Aug. 8, 2010, with United States' Rubin Williams at right.

*Associated Press*

of everyone else — just for the prize money — I have no problem. Gatlin is a great person. Of course he did something he shouldn't have, but he paid the price for it." Gatlin is just happy to have the chance of earning any money at all.

"Well, when you go from four years of not making anything to making something here and there, it's a good thing," he said. "The faster you run

and the better you compete, the more doors open — that's how track and field is."

Gatlin now trains under speed technician Loren Seagrave, who once worked with former world record-holder Donovan Bailey, and Seagrave's associate Rana Rieder.

During his glory years, he was coached by Trevor Graham, who was given a lifetime ban by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency for his role in helping

athletes obtain performance-enhancing drugs. Graham also coached Marion Jones and Tim Montgomery, who were both tainted by doping.

"It's been a tough transition," Gatlin said. "My running style is a little different, I'm not as strong as I wish to be upper body and I still have some aches and pains in my quads and things like that, but hopefully this is just a prelude for me to go out there and run even better next year."

After Rovereto, Gatlin will hop on a train to a meet in Padua.

These minor meets are quite a change from the jet-set circuit where Gatlin used to compete — in all the major cities.

"I feel like I'm backpacking through Europe," he said. "It makes me feel like a rookie all over again, which is not a bad thing. I think anybody would give an arm or a leg to start their career over again."

The long-term goals for Gatlin start with next year's U.S. trials, where he hopes to qualify for the American team at the world championships in Daegu, South Korea. Then, of course, there's the 2012 London Olympics.

"I think I've always been a championship-style runner," he said. "I think that coming back at this point in time has given me a running start into these championship years to come." □

## Briggs taunts Klitschko ahead of Oct. 16 bout

Klitschko shrugged off the threat, suggesting that the fight on Oct. 16 in Hamburg, Germany, will be a test of his own mental strength.

"The only man who can defeat Vitali Klitschko is Vitali Klitschko," he said. But the 39-year-old Ukrainian also admitted, "It will be an amazing, exciting fight, full of drama."

Briggs is the fourth choice for Klitschko, after Russian pair Nikolai Valuev and Alexander Povetkin and outspoken British heavyweight David Haye refused the bout.

Haye had been calling out Klitschko and his brother Wladimir for months, but ultimately refused to take the fight when it was offered. Povetkin was the mandatory challenger but backed out at the last minute when his team decided he wasn't ready for Klitschko.

Klitschko (40-2) recognized Briggs (51-5-1) as "one of the most serious pretenders to the title." Briggs won the WBO title with a 12th-round knockout of Sergei Liakhovich in November 2006, but lost the title in his first defense against Sultan Ibragimov eight months later. □



# U.S. survives test, holds on to edge Brazil 70-68

**BRIAN MAHONEY**

**AP Basketball Writer**

ISTANBUL (AP) — The United States survived its first tough test at the world championships, edging Brazil 70-68 on Monday when Leandro Barbosa's shot rattled out at the buzzer.

Kevin Durant scored 27 points and Chauncey Billups added 15 for the Americans (3-0), who essentially clinched Group B with the victory. But this was further proof that a world title won't come easily for this young U.S. team — if it comes at all.

After the Americans trailed most of the first 2½ quarters, Lamar Odom's dunk with 7:14 left put them ahead 64-62. But they couldn't build on the lead during a tense final few minutes, and Brazil had two chances to send the game to overtime.

Following a miss by Billups, Brazil got the ball and Marcelo Huertas was fouled on a drive to the basket with 3.5 seconds remaining. He missed the first free throw and then the second intentionally, tracking it down in the corner and firing it underneath to Barbosa, who put up a shot over Kevin Love, only to have it bounce off the back and front of the rim.

Barbosa finished with 14 points after a strong start for

Brazil (2-1). Marcus Vinicius scored 16, and Tiago Splitter had 13 while battling foul trouble in the second half.

Also in Group B, Iran (1-2) earned its first victory ever at the world championship by beating Tunisia (0-3) behind 23 points and 13 rebounds from Hamed Haddadi of the Memphis Grizzlies.

Uros Slokar and Jaka Lakovic scored 15 points each, and Slovenia (2-1) beat Croatia 91-84 in the first game of the day in Istanbul. Croatia (1-2) shot 55 percent from 3-point range but was only 15 of 26 from the foul line.

With NBA big men Nene, Anderson Varejao and Splitter, Brazil was considered one of the teams with enough size to topple the undersized Americans. Nene had to pull out with an injury and Varejao sat out again while continuing to rest a sprained right ankle, so the Brazilians turned to a speed game to lead for much of the game.

They just couldn't finish the upset, leaving the Americans needing only a victory over Iran or Tunisia, the bottom two teams in Group B, or another Brazil loss to earn the top seed from the group and three full days off before meeting the No. 4 seed from Group A on Sept. 6.

The Americans have plenty to work on before worrying about that, after needing a huge night from Durant and 31 minutes from Billups, the old man of the team at 33, to pull this one out.

Brazil is coached by Ruben Magnano, who guided Argentina to victories over the U.S. in the 2002 worlds and 2004 Olympics, when the Argentines won gold. He nearly authored another upset. U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski used his reserves liberally in the first two games, but gave much longer runs to the starters Monday after the backups were ineffective during their first stints.

In Group A in Kayseri, Luis Scola scored 32 points to help Argentina beat Angola 91-70, essentially securing its place in the second round.

Scola scored 17 of Argentina's 23 points in the first quarter as the South Americans built a three-point lead. The Houston Rockets power forward finished the first half with 21 points as Argentina (3-0) took a 45-32 lead into the break.

Joaquim Gomes had 16 for Angola (1-2).

Patty Mills scored 16 points as Australia (2-1) cruised to a 78-43 victory over cold-shooting Germany, which may have been tired after a double-



**USA's Kevin Durant, left, falls over Brazil's Leandro Barbosa during the preliminary round of the World Basketball Championship, Monday, Aug. 30, 2010, in Istanbul, Turkey.**

*Associated Press*

overtime victory over Serbia a day earlier.

Germany (1-2) scored the first basket before watching Australia go on a 12-0 run. The lead reached 22 before Australia took a 38-20 lead into halftime. Germany shot 27 percent from the field in

the first half and 26 percent for the game.

Serbia (2-1) rebounded from the loss to the Germans with a 112-69 victory over Jordan (0-3). Dusko Savanovic and Marko Keselj each scored 21 points as Serbia shot 71.7 percent from the field. □

# U.S. Soccer signs Bradley to four-year extension

CHICAGO (AP) — Bob Bradley has agreed to a contract extension Monday that will see him remain coach of the U.S. football team until after the 2014 World Cup.

U.S. Soccer announced the four-year contract extension late Monday, ending speculation Bradley was seeking a job in Europe and that the federation wanted to start anew in the lead-up to the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. Financial terms were not disclosed.

"Bob is honored to be the U.S.

coach," said Ron Waxman, Bradley's agent. "It's a job he enjoys very much, and he's very happy."

U.S. Soccer president Sunil Gulati and Bradley will address the extension Tuesday.

The United States won its group at the World Cup in South Africa before being eliminated in a 2-1 extra time loss to Ghana.

Though many countries addressed their coaching situations soon after the World Cup, Gulati felt no pressure to move quickly

because Bradley's current deal didn't expire until December. The Americans also had a friendly against Brazil earlier this month and will play two more in October.

As the week passed, however, it seemed less likely Bradley would be retained. Despite reaching the second round, Gulati has said he thought the Americans were capable of more in South Africa. Bradley also expressed interest in jobs overseas, including Fulham and Aston Villa in the English Premier League.

It's often tough for coaches to replicate success over to a second cycle, too. Bradley replaced Bruce Arena, who led the Americans to the quarterfinals in 2002 only to see them crash out in the first round in 2006.

But in the end, Bradley and U.S. Soccer decided to stay the course. Bradley is well-respected tactically, and players appreciate his even keel and open-mindedness. He selected both Edson Buddle and Herculez Gomez for South Africa despite the fact neither was even on the



**In a June 12, 2010, file photo, U.S. soccer coach Bob Bradley gestures during a World Cup group C match between England and the United States at Royal Bafokeng Stadium in Rustenburg, South Africa.**

*Associated Press*

depth chart at the beginning of the year.

Gulati and Bradley met last Thursday, and negotiations on a new deal were finalized Sunday night. □





Milwaukee Brewers catcher George Kottaras, left, tags out Los Angeles Dodgers' Manny Ramirez at home during the third inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Aug. 25, 2010, in Milwaukee. Ramirez tried to score from second on a hit by Casey Blake.

Associated Press

## MANNY RAMIREZ

Continued from Page B1

As expected, the White Sox claimed the unpredictable but productive 12-time All-Star slugger on waivers from the Los Angeles Dodgers, counting on his powerful bat, full of so many October swings and homers, to help them make a postseason push. "Hopefully, he can come in here and give us some help," White Sox first baseman Paul Konerko said. "We need to make up some ground. There's no doubt Manny can hit. He makes any team better."

Chicago began a key 10-game trip to Cleveland, Boston and Detroit on Monday night, although Ramirez is not expected to join the White Sox, his fourth major league team, until Tuesday. They began the day 4 1/2 games behind first-place Minnesota in the AL Central.

The 38-year-old Ramirez returns to the AL after spending parts of three seasons in Los Angeles, a stay that ended on a somewhat sour note. He batted .311 with eight homers and 40 RBIs in 66 games with the Dodgers this season, but was on the disabled list from July 20 to Aug. 20 with a right calf strain and missed 33 games.

Guillen said it's possible Ramirez could play on Tuesday if he feels up to it. Guillen plans to use Ramirez primarily as a designated hitter and will bat him fifth.

The White Sox are trying to reach the playoffs for the first time since 2008. That year, they traded for Ken Griffey Jr.

before the July 31 deadline, but he had little impact down the stretch or in the postseason. Griffey and Ramirez certainly were different characters. Guillen feels Ramirez is misunderstood. He doesn't anticipate having any trouble with him, and he's confident the enigmatic superstar will be easily accepted in Chicago's clubhouse.

"People have the wrong idea about Manny," he said. "I don't think Manny is a bad guy or a pain in the butt. It's funny how people say Manny is being Manny. Manny is being real. I never see anyone on his team get mad at him because he goes about his business."

White Sox general manager Kenny Williams said he consulted with his staff before pursuing Ramirez.

In the end, it was an easy call. "If I felt that this was something that was going to be disruptive, then obviously we wouldn't have done it," Williams said. "But I think this is something we need in order to help us achieve our goals this year. It's not just about adding another bat, it's adding a bat that can do damage against the league's very best pitchers, and there is a difference."

His first appearance for Chicago will come against the lowly Indians, the team that drafted him and enjoyed his production for eight seasons. He'll then head to Fenway Park, where he was adored by Boston fans before he was traded to the Dodgers in 2008.

That summer, he hit .396 with 17 homers, propelling LA to a postseason berth.

The White Sox can't expect that, but that's why they got him.

"That's the reason we made the move," Guillen said. "He's not going to be a savior. He will help us, but he can't save us. We need to get all our guys as a group to play better."

Although Guillen doesn't have many rules, the White Sox will require Ramirez to abide by their appearance clause, which maintains players keep their hair neat. Ramirez will have to cut his dreadlocks, which currently flow to the middle of his back.

Williams expects Ramirez to comply with the club policy established by owner Jerry Reinsdorf.

"From my understanding it is not going to be an issue and he is going to make an adjustment and conform to how we like to have our players represented out there," Williams said.

Guillen made it clear that he won't tell Ramirez anything other than where he's hitting.

"If Jerry has any problem with his hair or the way he wears his uniform, they got to go directly to him," Guillen said, pretending to wash his hands. "That's not my department. Guys can go out there buck naked, and if they win games for me, I'm happy."

Ramirez had early success with the Dodgers, but the last two years haven't gone as well. He was slapped with a 50-game suspension after a failed drug test last year. □



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late show: 12:00

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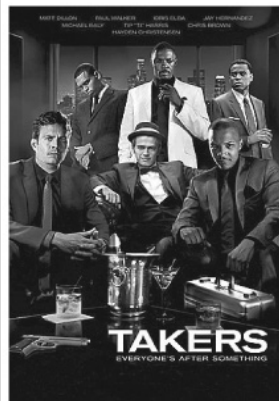
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# Wie wins CN Canadian Open for second LPGA victory

WINNIPEG, Manitoba (AP) — Michelle Wie closed with a 2-under 70 Sunday for a three-shot win at the Canadian Women's Open, her second career victory on the LPGA Tour. Wie, who was 12 under for the tournament, earned the winner's check of \$337,500 in the \$2.25-million event at the St. Charles Country Club — the LPGA's only stop in Canada.

Wie had five birdies, including on the 13th, 14th and 15th holes.

"I made a lot of crucial putts today," said Wie, who at 10 years old was the youngest player to qualify for the U.S. Amateur Championship.

Jiyai Shin of South Korea shot a 73 and tied for second with Kristy McPherson (66), defending champion Suzann Pettersen of Norway (69) and South Korea's Jee

Lee Young (69).

Wie led wire-to-wire after an opening 65 and was tied with Shin for the lead entering the final round at 10 under.

"My shot was really good, but my putting was so bad," said Shin, who has four victories since joining the LPGA Tour last season.

"I (had) lots of chances for birdies, but I couldn't make it just a couple times."

Ai Miyazato (69) of Japan, the No. 1-ranked player heading into the Open, finished tied for 15th, while No. 2 Cristie Kerr (69) tied for eighth.

After the 20-year-old Wie ended her round on the 18th green, her longtime friend and fellow American player Christina Kim sprayed her with champagne.

"I was trying to run away from her," Wie said with a

laugh. "All I was thinking in my mind was I'm wearing white pants, please be nice Tina."

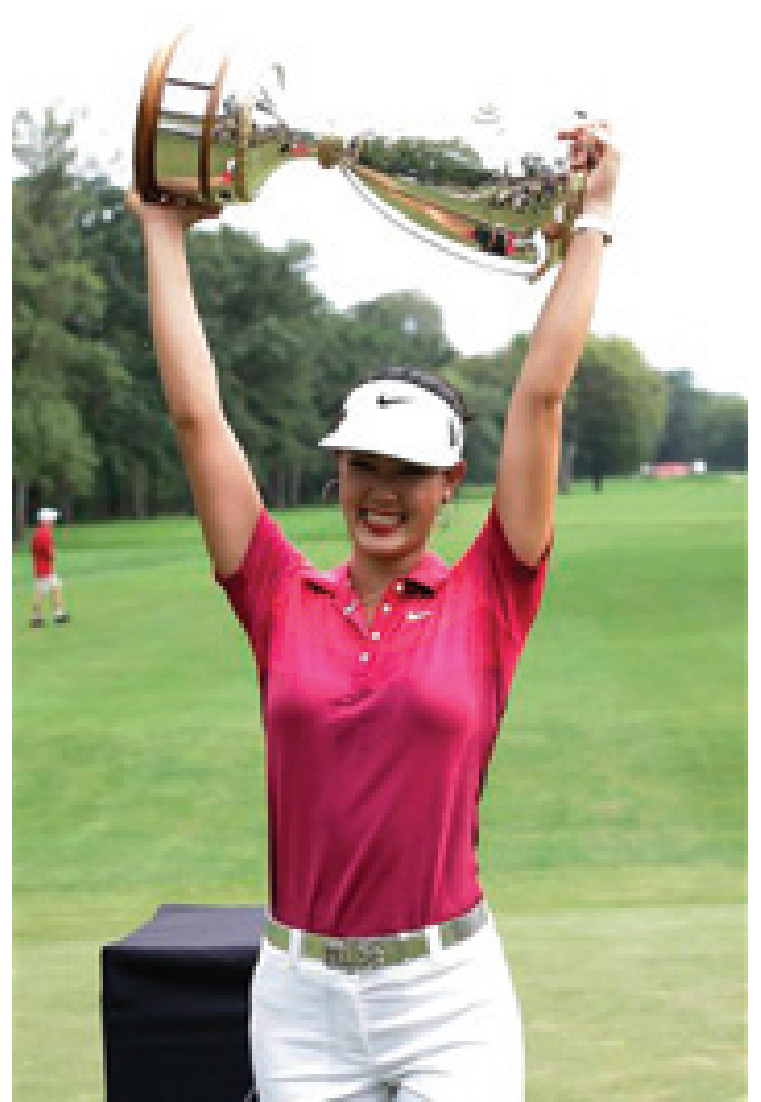
Wie's first career win came in November at the Lorena Ochoa Invitational during her rookie season. Her opening round this week featured the second hole-in-one of her pro career.

Wie said she's heading back to school at Stanford after the LPGA's next event — the P&G NW Arkansas Championship beginning Sept. 10.

Next year's tournament will be held in Montreal and then Vancouver in 2012. □

**Michelle Wie of the United States celebrates her victory after the final round of the Canadian Women's Open golf tournament in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Sunday, Aug. 29, 2010. Wie won with a final score of 12-under par.**

*Associated Press*



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Oakland Athletics pitcher Gio Gonzalez delivers to the Texas Rangers in the sixth inning of a baseball game Sunday, Aug. 29, 2010, in Arlington, Texas. Gonzalez pitched six innings, giving up five hits and two runs in the 8-2 Athletics win.

Associated Press

## AL Roundup

# A's take series at Texas, cut AL West gap to 7½

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Pitcher Gio Gonzalez won his third consecutive start as the Oakland Athletics cut their American League West deficit to 7 1/2 games with an 8-2 victory Sunday, taking two of three in their series with the division-leading Texas Rangers. Mark Ellis and Kevin Kouzmanoff homered for the A's off Colby Lewis (9-11), while Cliff Pennington snapped out of a 2-for-24 slide with two singles and a sacrifice squeeze bunt. Gonzalez (12-8) left with a 7-2 lead after throwing 65 of his 95 pitches for strikes in six innings on another hot day in Texas. The left-hander is 7-1 with a 2.10 ERA in 10 day games this season.

At Chicago, rookie Ivan Nova set aside any worries he had about a Major League Baseball investigation and earned his first career win, and Marcus Thames hit another homer as New York edged Chicago.

It was an impressive outing for Nova (1-0), who allowed one run and five hits with seven strikeouts and one walk in 5 2-3 innings. He outpitched Gavin Floyd (9-11) in his second start, a day after reports surfaced that the league is investigating him and a former minor league teammate for allegedly injecting each other with B-12 shots. The vitamin is not on baseball's list of banned substances.

Thames led off the second with his fifth homer in five games and ninth overall. At Cleveland, Kila Ka'aihue hit a go-ahead double in the seventh inning to help Bruce Chen and Kansas City beat Cleveland.

Chen (9-7) allowed two runs and six hits over six innings

as the Royals avoided a three-game sweep.

Mike Aviles blooped a one-out single to center off Fausto Carmona (11-13) and scored on Ka'aihue's drive into the left-center gap to put the Royals ahead 3-2.

Mitch Maier and Brayan Pena each had two RBIs for Kansas City.

At Toronto, Ryan Raburn hit two home runs and Rick Porcello pitched two-hit ball for seven innings to lead Detroit past the Blue Jays.

Porcello (7-11) won consecutive starts for the first time this season. He walked none and struck out four.

Raburn is batting .341 with eight homers and 21 RBIs in his past 23 games.

Detroit opened the scoring in the first against Marc Rzepczynski (1-3) on an RBI double by Miguel Cabrera. At Anaheim, California, Jeremy Guthrie allowed four hits while pitching into the ninth inning as two relievers helped complete Baltimore's six-game season sweep of struggling Los Angeles.

Luke Scott scored on Matt Wieters' sacrifice fly in the seventh. The Orioles limited the Angels to one run in three games while sweeping the season series for the first time by either club in a half-century of competition.

Guthrie (8-13) allowed just one runner to reach third base until Reggie Willits hustled for a one-out double in the ninth and advanced on Howie Kendrick's single. At Seattle, a wild pitch, a misplayed fly ball and a fielder's choice by Adam Moore in a two-run seventh inning helped Seattle beat

Minnesota and avoid a three-game series sweep.

Luke French (3-4) allowed three hits, including a home run by Michael Cuddyer, in his seven innings.

David Aardsma gave up a single to Orlando Hudson with one out in the ninth, but then got Cuddyer to hit into a broken-bat double play behind second base for his 25th save in 30 chances.

Twins starter Carl Pavano (15-10) was cruising through six innings until Seattle's rally. He allowed five hits and the two runs in his seven innings for his third consecutive loss.

At St. Petersburg, Florida, Carlos Pena and Carl Crawford homered to back James Shields and help Tampa Bay retain a share of first place in the AL East.

Keeping pace with the New York Yankees, the Rays rebounded from losing the opener of a crucial weekend series to win two straight and drop the third-place Red Sox 6 1/2 games behind in the division and wild card. Shields (13-11) won for the sixth time in eight starts, allowing three runs and seven hits over 6 2-3 innings. He walked one and struck out eight before turning over a one-run lead to a better-than-expected bullpen.

Pena and Crawford both homered off John Lackey (12-8). Pena hit a solo shot in the fourth and Crawford delivered a two-run shot that wiped out a 3-1 Boston lead in the sixth.

In other AL games it was Kansas City 6, Cleveland 2; Detroit 10, Toronto 4; N.Y. Yankees 2, Chicago White Sox 1; Oakland 8, Texas 2; Baltimore 1, L.A. Angels 0; Seattle 2, Minnesota 1; Tampa Bay 5, Boston 3. □

## Hamilton wins Belgian GP to take F1 lead

PAUL LOGOTHETIS

AP Auto Racing Writer

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium (AP)—Lewis Hamilton overcame a late scare to win the Belgian Grand Prix and take the overall lead of the Formula One championship on Sunday.

Hamilton ran off the track with nine laps to race but recovered to keep the lead and edge second-place Mark Webber of Red Bull.

"I locked my wheel and went wide," Hamilton said. "I just clipped (the wall). But I was able to get away with it."

Webber dropped to second in the overall standings after failing to defend his pole position with a clutch problem giving him a poor start off the line.

Jenson Button's championship hopes took a hit after the defending F1 champion was knocked out of the race when Sebastian Vettel crashed into him during a failed overtaking maneuver.

Hamilton's 14th career win means the Briton has 182 points — three more than Webber — as the two opened up a gap at the top.

"It was a pretty mixed up race (so) I'm happy with second in the end," Webber said.

Vettel stayed third with 151 points, Button is fourth with 147 and Fernando Alonso of Ferrari abandoned the race after spinning out to remain fifth on 141.

With six races remaining and the Italian GP next on Sept. 12, Alonso believed the championship remained wide open.

"In the next race maybe it's the opposite (results) and we go back to the positions we had yesterday afternoon," the two-time world champion said. "For us, it's still a possibility."

Robert Kubica of Renault was third in the race ahead of Felipe Massa of Ferrari, while Force India's Adrian Sutil completed the top five.

Hamilton's victory means nine of 13 races have been won by drivers not on pole. Red Bull has taken pole for 12 of the 13 races. □



## NL Roundup

# Upon further review, it's a homer, Braves win

The Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Brian McCann hit a game-winning homer with help from video replay, giving the Atlanta Braves a stunning 7-6 victory over the Florida Marlins on Sunday.

It was the first time a game ended using a video review.

Pinch-hitter Matt Diaz tied it with a two-run homer off Leo Nunez (4-3) after Brooks Conrad led off the ninth with a walk. Nunez retired the next two hitters, then McCann drove a 1-2 pitch toward the wall in right.

The ball bounced back onto the field, and the umpires initially ruled it was still in play. McCann stopped at second and began arguing that he should have more than a double.

The umpires conferred, then headed toward the Florida dugout to look at a replay which clearly showed the ball struck the top of the wall — right over McCann's name on an auxiliary scoreboard — and went over. It ricocheted back onto the field off a back wall.

Crew chief Tim McClelland returned to the field, pointed toward McCann with a slight grin — and gave the universal signal for homer. The review took a relatively quick 1 minute, 26 seconds.

## Reds 7, Cubs 5

At Cincinnati, Kosuke Fukudome's homer tied it in the top of the eighth, but his throwing error in the bottom half of the inning helped Cincinnati rally for a win that completed its season-long domination of Chicago.

The Reds took a five-game lead in the National League Central, their biggest edge since early in the 2002 season, when second-place



Atlanta Braves' Brian McCann hits a baseball game-winning home run in the ninth inning against the Florida Marlins in Atlanta, Sunday, Aug. 29, 2010. Atlanta won 7-6.

Associated Press

St. Louis lost to Washington 4-2.

Fukudome's two-run homer off Arthur Rhodes tied it at 5. His throw from right field skipped into a photographers' booth behind third base in the bottom of the inning, letting in the go-ahead run off Sean Marshall (6-5).

## Phillies 5, Padres 0

At San Diego, Cole Hamels shut down his hometown team on four singles in eight innings to win for the first time in nine starts, leading Philadelphia to a three-game sweep of stumbling NL West-leading San Diego.

The Padres have lost four straight games for the first time this season and were swept for just the second time. The Padres, who led the majors in fielding percentage (.989) coming in, committed a season-high four errors.

After being swept at home in four games by Houston, the wild card-leading Phillies had their usual success at Petco Park. They won their seventh straight game at the downtown ballpark, where

they're 18-4 since it opened in 2004.

Mike Sweeney, starting in place of slumping Ryan Howard against left-hander Clayton Richard, and Jayson Werth homered.

Nationals 4, Cardinals 2  
At Washington, Adam Wainwright struggled for five innings and St. Louis lost again, falling to Washington and dropping five games behind Cincinnati in the NL Central.

Wainwright (17-9) failed in his third bid to become the NL's first 18-game winner. The Nationals tagged him for four runs on six hits and three walks in five innings. In his last three starts, Wainwright's ERA has increased from a league-leading 1.99 to 2.30.

John Lannan (6-6) drove in two early runs, then pitched shutout ball into the seventh inning to leave the Cardinals at 2-5 — all against last-place teams — on their 10-game road trip.

Michael Morse hit a two-run homer as the Nationals posted consecutive wins for the first time since July 30-31. Morse had seven straight

hits, one short of tying the franchise record, before a flyout his next time up.

## Giants 9, Diamondbacks 7

At San Francisco, Jose Guillen hit a go-ahead, two-run single in the seventh inning as San Francisco beat Arizona.

Freddy Sanchez added three hits and two RBIs for the Giants, who avoided being swept by the last-place Diamondbacks and pulled within five games of San Diego in the NL West.

San Francisco remained 1½ games behind Philadelphia for the NL wild card.

Stephen Drew had four hits for Arizona, including his 11th home run of the season.

Jeremy Affeldt (3-3) got two outs for the win while Brian Wilson recorded the final five outs for his 36th save in 38 tries.

## Brewers 8, Pirates 4

At Milwaukee, Trevor Hoffman earned his 599th career save and Ryan Braun homered as Milwaukee completed a three-game sweep of Pittsburgh.

The all-time saves leader

entered the game with one out in the ninth and two runners on base, and retired both batters he faced to convert his eighth save in 13 chances this year.

Dave Bush (7-11) got the win. The Pirates have lost 13 consecutive road games.

## Rockies 10, Dodgers 5

At Denver, Dexter Fowler hit two triples to set a Colorado record and had three RBIs, and Carlos Gonzalez homered twice and drove in four runs in a win over Los Angeles.

Jason Hammel (9-7) hung on for his first win in four starts since Aug. 6. Fowler has 12 triples this year, the most in a season by a Rockies player.

Dodgers pinch-hitter Manny Ramirez argued a called first-pitch strike and was ejected in the sixth inning.

## Mets 5, Astros 1

At New York, R.A. Dickey flustered the Astros with knuckleballs and foiled them with his bat, leading the New York Mets over Houston.

Josh Thole homered and Dickey (9-5) keyed a second-inning rally with a two-run single that helped the Mets end a four-game winning streak by Bud Norris (6-8).

**In other NL games it was Cincinnati 7, Chicago Cubs 5; N.Y. Mets 5, Houston 1; Atlanta 7, Florida 6; Washington 4, St. Louis 2; Milwaukee 8, Pittsburgh 4; Colorado 10, L.A. Dodgers 5; San Francisco 9, Arizona 7; and Philadelphia 5, San Diego 0.** □





# Summer dollars rise, attendance dips for Hollywood

By DAVID GERMAIN,  
AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES – Hollywood is finishing its summer with record revenue but the lowest actual movie attendance in five years.

Domestic receipts from the first weekend in May through the upcoming Labor Day weekend should come in at about \$4.35 billion — \$100 million more than the record set last year, according to Paul

## An Emmy Awards to Remember

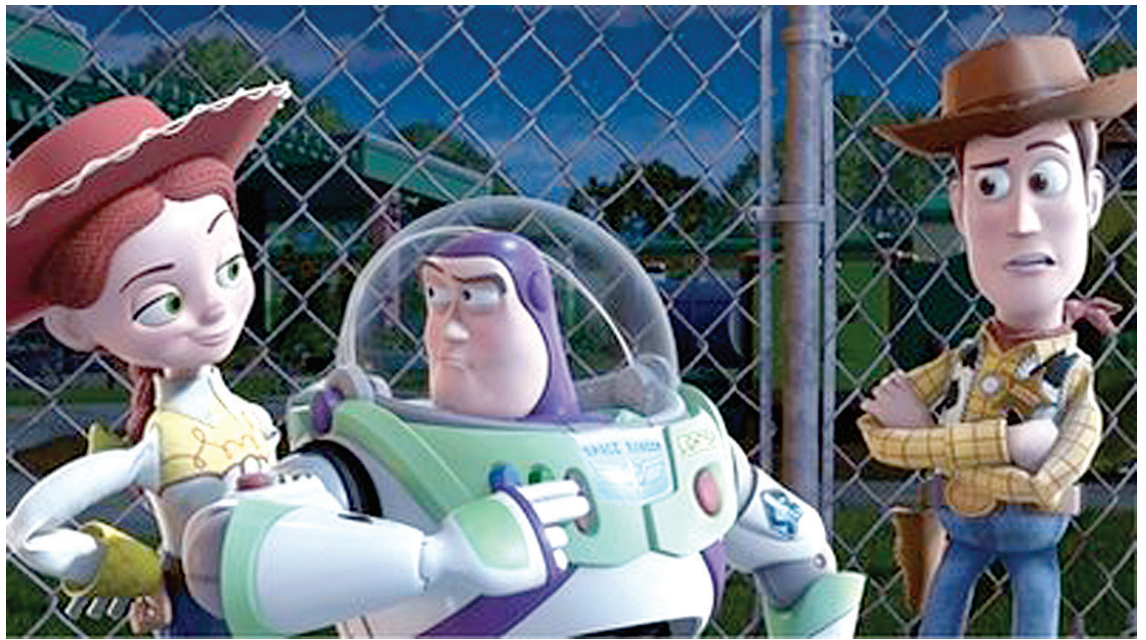


Anna Paquin and Stephen Moyer arrive at “The 62nd Annual Primetime Emmy Awards” in Los Angeles, Calif. on Sunday, August 29, 2010

Jenny Peters

Los Angeles – They danced, they sang and host Jimmy Fallon killed it at the 62nd Primetime Emmy Awards held Sunday, Aug. 29, at the Nokia Theater in downtown Los Angeles. It was a hot afternoon as the festivities began, with vampires like just-married “True Blood” stars Anna Paquin, clad in an armored Alexander McQueen sheath, and Stephen Moyer braving the sun. Their popular HBO show was shut out this year, but overall HBO led the pack with a total of eight Emmys, including wins for a luminously beautiful Claire Danes for “Temple Grandin,” a shaggy Al Pacino for “You Don’t Know Jack,” and Tom Hanks for producing the epic miniseries “The Pacific.” Making a splash on the red carpet were the “Mad Men” beauties, as Christina Hendricks wowed in a plunging lavender Zac Posen gown and January Jones got a bit wacky in a peacock-blue Versace; Jon Hamm and Bryan Batt, the guys from that Outstanding Drama Series winning-show looked great, too, in sleek

tuxedos. Hamm did a quick change inside and joined Fallon, Betty White, Tina Fey, Kate Gosselin, Joel McHale, Nina Dobrev and the “Glee” cast, including Jane Lynch, Chris Colfer, Cory Monteith, Amber Riley, and Lea Michele for a grand singing and dancing opening that set the tone for the rest of the broadcast. It was fast, funny and filled with laughs, as was the rest of the show. One of the most amusing moments was when Edie Falco took home the trophy for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series for her work in “Nurse Jackie.” “This is just the most ridiculous thing that has ever, ever happened!” she said with a grimace. “I am not funny.” Jim Parsons won for Lead Actor in a Comedy for “The Big Bang Theory,” and a well-deserving Jane Lynch took home the Supporting Actress in a Comedy trophy for “Glee.” But “Modern Family” took home the big prize, Outstanding Comedy Series. Other winners included “The Closer” star Kyra Sedgwick for Lead Actress in a Drama Series and Bryan Cranston, who took home his third consecutive Lead Actor Drama prize for his work in “Breaking Bad.” George Clooney was honored with the Bob Hope Humanitarian Award, and he reminded everyone that “the people who really need the spotlight, the Haitians, the Sudanese, the people in the Gulf Coast” should be remembered even in the midst of entertainment celebrations. After the fast-moving show wrapped, Hollywood’s royalty rolled out to parties all over town. Hot tickets were the Entertainment



FILE - In this undated film publicity image originally released by Disney, from left, Jessie, voiced by Joan Cusack, Buzz Lightyear, voiced by Tim Allen and Woody, voiced by Tom Hanks are shown in a scene from, ‘Toy Story 3.’

(AP Photo/Disney Pixar)

Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. Attendance is down because of a steep rise in ticket prices, heavily due to a surge in 3-D screenings, which cost a few dollars more than regular movie admissions. Through Labor Day, the actual number of tickets sold during the summer season is expected to come in at 552 million, the lowest since 563.2 million tickets were sold in summer 2005, Dergarabedian estimated Monday. Ticket prices this year are averaging \$7.88, according to the National Association of Theatre Owners. That’s up 38 cents, or 5 percent, from 2009. “To have record revenue built on the back of much higher

ticket prices, in a way, it’s kind of a shallow victory. You want to see attendance go up every year, not down,” Dergarabedian said. The summer delivered some huge crowd-pleasers, led by Disney’s “Toy Story 3,” which followed “Shrek 2” as just the second animated film to top \$400 million at the domestic box office. Paramount’s “Iron Man 2” shot past \$300 million, while Summit Entertainment’s “The Twilight Saga: Eclipse” has almost hit that mark. Topping \$200 million were the Warner Bros. release “Inception,” Paramount and DreamWorks Animation’s “Shrek Forever After” and Universal’s “Despicable Me.” Sony had three \$100 million

hits with “The Karate Kid,” “Grown Ups” and “Salt.” Other releases failed to live up to the hype of summer blockbuster season, among them the Warner Bros. sequel “Sex and the City 2,” Disney’s “The Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time” and “The Sorcerer’s Apprentice,” and 20th Century Fox’s “Marmaduke” and “Knight and Day.” “Audiences were underwhelmed, and they voted with their absence,” Dergarabedian said. “If you asked most people what they thought of the quality of the movies, it’s kind of a so-so summer. We could have done a lot worse were it not for films like ‘Inception’ and ‘Toy Story 3.’” □

## Bullock: Son is ‘crown prince’ in family of girls

NEW YORK – Actress Sandra Bullock says her baby son is the “crown prince” in the family because everyone else is female — even the pets. Bullock called her adopted son from New Orleans, Louis Bardo Bullock, her “little Cajun cookie.” She started the adoption process four years ago, and Louis’ adoption was finalized earlier this year. In an interview airing Tuesday on NBC’s “Today” show, Bullock says she didn’t want to use her celebrity status to speed up the adoption process. She says: “I wanted to do everything exactly the same way everyone else did.” Bullock was in New Orleans this week for the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina to celebrate the opening of a school-based health clinic that she contributed to. Bullock finalized her divorce from biker businessman Jesse James earlier this year. □



FILE - In this March 7, 2010 file photo, Sandra Bullock poses with the Oscar for Actress in a Leading Role for ‘The Blind Side’ in the Press Room during the 82nd Academy Awards in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles.

(AP Photo/Matt Sayles, file)





# Stocks drop as investors enter week cautiously

By STEPHEN BERNARD,  
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK – Stocks fell in thin trading Monday after more signs of slowing economic growth got investors worried ahead of a key report on jobs later this week.

The Dow Jones industrial average lost ground throughout the day and closed with a loss of 141 points. Other indexes also fell more than 1 percent. Bond prices rose, sending interest rates lower, as money moved back into the Treasury market.

The latest cause for worry on the economy came in a report early Monday showing that personal incomes rose less than expected in July. That added to a series of discouraging economic indicators recently suggesting that growth could slow down in the second half of the year.

“The personal income report did little to ease the nervousness about the trajectory of the economy,” said Alan Gayle, senior investment strategist at RidgeWorth Investments. The report did show spending was up in July, but without consistent growth in income,

any increase in spending is likely temporary, Gayle said. Investors have been focusing on employment data as a way of predicting where the economy is going. Signs of a slowdown in growth has plagued the market for more than a month. Investors are unsure if companies will be able to keep up strong earnings growth if the recovery runs out of steam or falls back into recession.

“You have to prepare for slower growth,” said Mark Tepper, managing partner at Strategic Wealth Partners. “As consumer spending goes down, businesses will experience lower earnings.” Investors have been betting in recent weeks that the weaker economic reports will translate into smaller earnings than previously thought. That, in turn, has helped drive stocks lower to match the diminished expectations.

The Dow fell 140.92, or 1.4 percent, to close at 10,009.73. The Standard & Poor’s 500 index fell 15.67, or 1.5 percent, to 1,048.92, while the Nasdaq composite index fell 33.66, or

1.6 percent, to 2,119.97.

About four stocks fell for every two that rose on the New York Stock Exchange, where consolidated volume was anemically low at 2.9 billion shares.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury note, which moves opposite its price, fell to 2.53 percent from 2.65 percent late Friday. That yield helps set interest rates on mortgages and other consumer loans.

Biotechnology company Genzyme said Sanofi-Aventis’ \$69 per share offer undervalues the company. Genzyme shares jumped \$2.29, or 3.4 percent, to \$69.91, while Sanofi fell 29 cents to \$28.63.

Cogent jumped \$2.18, or 24.4 percent, to \$11.09 after manufacturer 3M said it would buy the maker of fingerprint scanners for \$10.50 a share. Shares of 3M dipped \$1.35 to \$79.65.

Hewlett-Packard said it plans to repurchase \$10 billion in stock. The computer company plans to buy back shares, in part, to offset dilution from employee stock plans. Hewlett-Packard shares rose



In this Aug. 27, 2010 photograph, the entrance to the New York Stock Exchange is shown. Stock futures traded in a tight range Monday, Aug. 30, 2010, as investors were tentative entering a week that provides the latest report on the jobs market.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

56 cents to \$38.56.

Stocks have largely been moving on major economic reports and less on individual corporate news during the past month. Because the Labor Department’s monthly employment report doesn’t come until Friday, investors will look for signs earlier in the week about the jobs market. A report on private employment comes out Wednesday, and first-time claims for unemployment insurance for last week will come out on Thursday.

On Monday, the Commerce Department said personal

income rose 0.2 percent last month, falling below economists’ forecast for 0.3 percent growth, according to Thomson Reuters.

Japanese markets surged after the country’s central bank approved new stimulus measures aimed at sparking growth and putting the brakes on a strengthening yen. The yen recently hit a 15-year high against the dollar, which hurts Japanese manufacturers, like Sony Corp., Panasonic Corp. and Toyota Motor Corp., that rely heavily on exports. Japan’s Nikkei stock average rose 1.8 percent. □

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# HEALTH

## Aruba TODAY

# Diabetes now tops Vietnam vets' claims



**FILE** - In this May 1966 file photo, a U.S. Air Force C-123 flies low along a South Vietnamese highway spraying defoliants on dense jungle growth beside the road to eliminate ambush sites for the Viet Cong during the Vietnam War. Because of concerns about Agent Orange, more than one-quarter of the 1 million Vietnam veterans receiving disability checks are getting compensation for diabetes and other common ailments of age, with erectile dysfunction among them, according to millions of VA claims records obtained by The Associated Press through the Freedom of Information Act.

(AP Photo/Department of Defense, File)

By **MIKE BAKER**,  
Associated Press Writer  
RALEIGH, N.C. — By his own reckoning, a Navy electrician spent just eight hours in Vietnam, during a layover on his flight back to the U.S. in 1966. He bought some cigarettes and snapped a few photos. The jaunt didn't make for much of a war story, and there is no record it ever happened. But the man successfully argued that he may have been exposed to Agent Orange during his stopover and that it might have caused his diabetes — even though decades of research into the defoliant have failed to find more than a possibility that it causes the disease. Because of worries about Agent Orange, about 270,000 Vietnam veterans — more than one-quarter of the 1 million receiving disability checks — are getting compensation for diabetes, according to Department of Veterans Affairs records obtained by

The Associated Press through the Freedom of Information Act. More Vietnam veterans are being compensated for diabetes than for any other malady, including post-traumatic stress disorder, hearing loss or general wounds. Tens of thousands of other claims for common ailments of age — erectile dysfunction among them — are getting paid as well because of a possible link, direct or indirect, to Agent Orange. And the taxpayers may soon be responsible for even more: The VA said Monday that it will add heart disease, Parkinson's disease and certain types of leukemia to the list of conditions that might be connected to Agent Orange. The agency estimates that the new rules, which will go into effect in two months unless Congress intervenes, will cost \$42 billion over the next 10 years. Lawmakers and federal

officials who have reservations about the spending are loath to criticize a program that helps servicemen. They have largely ignored a 2008 report in which a group of scientists said the decision to grant benefits to so many on such little evidence was "quite extreme."

"There needs to be a discussion about the costs, about how to avoid false positives while also trying to be sure the system bends over backwards to be fair to the veterans," said Jonathan M. Samet, a public health expert who led that study and now serves as director of the Institute for Global Health at the University of Southern California.

The VA uses a complex formula when awarding benefits and does not track how much is spent for a specific ailment, but AP calculations based on the records suggest that Vietnam veterans with diabetes should receive at least \$850 million each year. That does not include the hefty costs of retroactive payments or additional costs for health care. The agency spends \$34 billion a year on disability benefits for all wars.

Dr. Victoria Anne Cassano, director of radiation and physical exposures at the Veterans Health Administration, part of the VA, pointed to the wording of the 1991 federal law on Agent Orange that said officials should find a positive link to diseases "if the credible evidence for the association is equal to or outweighs the credible evidence against the association."

It's a low bar. But Cassano said the law requires the VA to act without consideration of cost. She also said it is the best way to ensure that deserving veterans don't get lost in the shuffle.

"Does it make you take a deep breath? Does it give you

pause? Yes," she said. "But you still do what you think is the right thing to do."

Agent Orange was a dioxin-laden defoliant that was sprayed over jungles to strip the Viet Cong of cover. American forces often got a soaking, too, and Agent Orange was later conclusively linked to several horrific health ailments, including cancers. So Congress and the VA set up a system to automatically award benefits to veterans who needed only to prove that they were in Vietnam at any time during a 13-year period and later got one of the illnesses connected to Agent Orange.

The VA, interpreting that 1991 law and studies that indicated potential associations, has over time added ailments that have no strong scientific link to Agent Orange. The nonprofit Institute of Medicine's biennial scientific analysis of available research, to which the VA looks for guidance, has repeatedly found only the possibility of a link between Agent Orange and diabetes, and that even a chance of a correlation is outweighed by factors such as family history, physical inactivity and obesity.

"Whatever the relationship between dioxin or Agent Orange and diabetes, it's a very small piece of the puzzle," said Dr. David Tollerud, an environmental health professor at the University of Louisville. He led an Institute of Medicine committee that first reported in 2000 on a possible link between diabetes and Agent Orange.

Tollerud's committee concluded that evidence was limited and that chance or other factors could not be ruled out. Yet the VA in 2001 put diabetes on the list of ailments that get automatic approval for benefits.

One large study released since then, costing \$143 million and

published in 2005 after 25 years of research, surveyed the airmen responsible for loading and dumping Agent Orange during Operation Ranch Hand, as the spraying missions were called. The final round of testing actually showed the prevalence of diabetes among those participants was slightly lower than among pilots who did not take part — 18.2 percent versus 19.3 percent. Some 23 percent of Americans 60 and older have diabetes, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"It's nothing more than a bunch of BS," said Jack Spey, who flew hundreds of Ranch Hand missions during more than three years in Southeast Asia. Spey, who lives in Hurricane, Utah, and organizes a Ranch Hands reunion every year, said cockpits were constantly covered in Agent Orange. Leaking nozzles dripped on workers who walked under the wings. Punctured lines would spray solution on pilots as they flew. In a bit of machismo, some like Spey said they took swigs of Agent Orange to prove they could handle it. Spey said he is not drawing any VA benefits and believes veterans face little more than the ailments of age.

While Spey said policymakers have gone too far in granting benefits, Navy veteran Jonathan Haas believes they have not gone far enough. He petitioned the VA for years for recognition of a diabetes link to Agent Orange, saying he saw large clouds of chemicals drift over the waters off Vietnam and engulf his ship. He unsuccessfully challenged the VA rule that provided automatic compensation for diabetes only for those who set foot in Vietnam or worked on the country's inland waterways.

*Continued on Next Page*



**DIABETES**

*Continued from Previous Page*

The VA eventually granted him 100 percent disability — he is now drawing \$36,000 a year, according to VA records — in part for diabetes after medical records from his service indicated that his condition had developed before he left the military. Other Navy veterans, he said, are not as lucky.

“They’re getting screwed,” said Haas, a 72-year-old who blames diabetes for his blindness, kidney failure and difficulty standing.

Some members of Congress are pushing to include those veterans who served off the coast of Vietnam — which would add an estimated 800,000 people to the 2.6 million who served there on land. Cassano, the VA official, said the agency is looking at it.

The case of the Navy electrician who spent eight hours in Vietnam is detailed in the documents reviewed by the AP. As with most public portions of VA claims records, the man’s name is omitted.

The government’s benefit-of-the-doubt policy contrasts with its stand toward Vietnam. The U.S. has approved several million dollars in recent years to help Vietnam clean up Agent Orange. But it has declined to provide health and financial support to Vietnamese people affected by the herbicide, with the American ambassador in Hanoi saying there is insufficient evidence that it causes health problems.

Disability benefits are a lot like workers’ compensation, providing income to veterans who incurred ailments from their active-duty service. The benefits can last a lifetime even if the veteran holds a full-time job. They often transfer to surviving family members when a veteran dies of the disability. They are paid in addition to any medical, education and pension coverage that veterans receive.

Many veterans have a combination of ailments that are crunched in a formula to determine their benefits. This makes it difficult to determine how much is being spent solely on diabetes.

Most veterans get a 20 percent disability rating for diabetes, which amounts to about \$3,000 per year if it is their only ailment. Others get up to 100 percent. If each of the 270,000 Vietnam veterans got the minimum compensation for their diabetes, it would add up to \$850 million every year.

Congress gave the VA the ability to deem ailments “presumptive” — automatically awarded — because of exposure to Agent Orange. The VA did that for five illnesses for which the Institute of Medicine found “sufficient evidence of an association,” such as leukemia, non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma and soft-tissue cancers. Those illnesses have risen dramatically in both Vietnam and the U.S. since the war.

The list of “presumptive” medical problems has grown to include seven ailments with only a “limited or suggestive” link to Agent Orange — a link that scientists said could be influenced by other factors, such as chance or bias in scientific studies. Those include diabetes along with prostate cancer and lung cancer.

Anthony Principi, a Vietnam veteran and former VA secretary who added diabetes to the list, said he struggled with the decision.

“I did the best I could with the information that was given to me. I wish there was more information that I could have had,” he said. Principi said he expected a surge of diabetes claims but is still surprised by the numbers. □

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# Microsoft to spend fortune on Windows 7 push

Microsoft's marketing and development costs could reach \$1 billion as it pushes its new mobile platform. Also, the more you use your smartphone, the more damage you may cause to your brain.

Emptying deep pockets While Apple wows us with design, and Google panders to the open-source set, Microsoft plans to push its new mobile operating system onto the masses and developers with a familiar tactic: cash.

According to TechCrunch, Microsoft is planning an aggressive and expensive campaign to push Windows 7 - arriving on phones this fall - to give the platform some leverage as it battles Apple and Google's Android for customers. Microsoft "could spend a half-billion dollars or more in marketing costs and payments to developers and handset manufacturers to subsidize the expense of building phones and apps, so that the Windows Phone 7 ecosystem is well-seeded at launch," writes Kim-Mai Cutler in a TechCrunch guest post.

Those costs could reach \$1 billion, the story notes, with half spent on marketing and half for other development costs.

"We have a long-term view and Microsoft has been in this position before in other businesses where we've had to take a long-term view," said Microsoft senior product manager Greg Sullivan. He would not comment on the estimates. "The mobile phone market is growing by leaps and bounds, but it's still in the early stages."

The story details troubles Microsoft may be having with hardware manufactures for the Windows 7

phones. Only HTC, LG and Samsung will offer Windows 7 phones, down from as many as eight partners when Microsoft started discussing the operating system earlier this year. Yet despite Microsoft's noted phone problems over the years and even this year -- remember the Kin line-up of phones? - all that money might buy some love.

Here's how Cutler concludes her fine piece: "The \$100 million (Deutsche Bank analyst Jonathan) Goldberg estimates that Verizon, Motorola and Google collectively spent on marketing helped turn the Droid line of phones into a serious stable of competitors against the iPhone."

Will it work? One has to believe that Microsoft freed a lot of marketing dollars when it yanked the Kin from the market.

We shall see, but it is wise to go after the developers who can create a boatload of apps. Without apps, Microsoft will start looking more like Research in Motion, where sales are falling fast because BlackBerry phones are not offering anything close to the sizable app library that Apple and Android have built.

Brain fail as much as we love our phones, there is growing concern that our need to constantly check email or play a casual game while waiting in line for lunch is not allowing our brains to breathe, so to speak. Therefore, we may be negatively impacting our ability to "learn and remember information, or come up with new ideas," according to a recent piece in the New York Times.

That piece was the latest installment of a fascinating

series titled "Your Brain on Computers." In this one, reporter Matt Richtel points to emerging research that "even though people feel entertained, even relaxed, when they multitask while exercising, or pass a moment at the bus stop by catching a quick video clip, they might be taxing their brains, scientists say. 'People think they're refreshing themselves, but they're fatiguing themselves,' said Marc Berman, a University of Michigan neuroscientist."

The story is fascinating, but I may have overlooked the piece had I not heard Richtel, a Pulitzer Prize winner, talking to Terry Gross on the PBS show Fresh Air. Richtel spoke of all the emerging research surrounding our constant need for communicating with technology and the side effects that result. Not all of those are bad, he pointed out, but there appears to be unintended consequences we are just now starting to understand.

Listen to this Ironically, that Fresh Air interview reminded me of one of my favorite Android Apps: Google's Listen. With Listen, you can search for Fresh Air and a list of recent episodes will pop up on your phone. You can then listen to the program as well as subscribe to a feed for new episodes of the show. Basically, Listen searches the web for audio content, much like a Google search scours websites for relevant information.

So, if you're looking for something to do and sitting out in your backyard and just thinking is not your thing, use Listen to dial in the segment with Richtel. You might want to put the phone down for a bit when you're done. □

## India BlackBerry users hold breath over ban

NEW DELHI — India's BlackBerry users are holding their breath as they wait to see if the government carries out a threat this week to ban encrypted messages sent on the phones due to fears of misuse by militants.

The government, worried that militants could use BlackBerry's heavily encrypted services to plan attacks, warned earlier this month it would start blocking emails and instant messages sent on the smartphones unless the company comes up with a way for security agencies to decode the traffic by August 31.

There were indications late last week the deadline might be pushed back beyond Tuesday's deadline as BlackBerry's Canadian makers, Research in Motion (RIM), scrambled to satisfy the authorities.

Minister of state for communications Sachin Pilot said he was "hopeful" a plan

could be worked out with RIM.

The government -- keen to project India as a fast-growing, investor-friendly economy -- is "not in the business of shutting down services", Pilot said, but stressed New Delhi was also not ready to sacrifice its security interests.

"These concerns have been addressed in other parts of the world. I see no reason why the government and (security) agencies should take any risk at all as far as technology (is concerned)."

Analysts have noted other security-conscious nations such as China and Russia appear to be satisfied over their intelligence agencies' level of access to BlackBerry communications.

G.K. Pillai, the top bureaucrat in the home ministry, was due to hold a department meeting Monday to take a call on India's next step. Officials have suggested RIM might

be given a one or two-month extension of the deadline.

BlackBerry users said they hoped a shutdown could be averted.

"It's as essential as food, water and shelter. A BlackBerry is a necessity for all the corporate guys, and the government can't afford to do that (a ban), that's for sure," said marketing manager Amit Deshmukh.

But the government has already told cellular operators to be prepared to shut off BlackBerry's corporate messaging services. Non-corporate emails are less heavily encrypted and can already be accessed by Indian security agencies.

For RIM, whose shares closed at a 52-week low on Friday of 45.99 dollars in New York, striking a deal with India is crucial and would help ensure the company is not shut out of the world's fastest-growing cellular market.

India, which has 1.1 million



BlackBerry users, would be the first country to curb its services. But RIM is also facing a threatened ban by the United Arab Emirates and is negotiating with Saudi Arabia on security issues.

In a bid to head off a showdown, RIM offered Thursday to set up an "industry forum" to look at how to prevent misuse of the encrypted service while safeguarding corporate privacy. RIM and analysts insist the company is unable to comply with demands to hand over codes allowing interception by security agencies.

RIM says it has no "master key" to unlock encryption codes of clients which are set at the user level and argues the issue is an industry-wide concern.

"The industry forum would work closely with the Indian government and focus on developing recommendations for policies and processes aimed at preventing the misuse of strong encryption technologies," RIM said.

"Banning one solution, such as the BlackBerry solution, would be ineffective" and also "severely limit the effectiveness and productivity of India's corporations," RIM added.

"They are essentially trying to educate the government so it can stay ahead of the technology -- militants are not going to be going around using corporate emails, there are more sophisticated methods," Kunal Bajaj, director India of telecom consulting firm Analysys Mason, told AFP. □



En Bolivia

# Presidente Morales dice que Irán es pacifista e Israel es terrorista

LA PAZ (AP) - El presidente Evo Morales colocó a Irán entre los países pacifistas y a Israel entre los terroristas, y criticó a las Naciones Unidas por no frenar la lo que llamó carrera nuclear israelí.

“Yo quiero decirle al mundo, hay países que se organizan y se preparan para defenderse y son países pacifistas (en alusión a Irán), pero también hay países que se arman para invadir y son países terroristas (Israel). Esa es la coyuntura que vivimos en el mundo”, dijo.

Morales habló el lunes con periodistas tras reunirse con una delegación iraní presidida por el ministro de Industria y Minas, Ali Akbar Mehrabian.

“Irán es amenazado por Estados Unidos y no tiene ni una sola bomba nuclear. Israel, según informes de diferentes fuentes, tiene entre 60 y 200 bombas nucleares que no fueron declaradas. No hay ninguna comisión de la ONU que imponga sanciones”, dijo. Morales rompió relaciones diplomáticas con Israel a



El presidente de Bolivia Evo Morales, izquierda, junto al ministro de Industria y Minas de Irán, Ali Akbar Mehrabian, aparen en una rueda de prensa en el palacio de gobierno en La Paz, Bolivia, el lunes 30 de agosto de 2010. (AP Photo/Juan Karita)

principios de 2009 cuando tropas israelíes incursionaron en la Franja de Gaza.

Mehrabian anunció un crédito de libre disponibilidad y bajos intereses a Bolivia por

unos 254 millones de dólares. Morales anunció el viaje de una misión a Irán a finales de septiembre para “firmar contratos de ejecución de proyectos específicos”.

El ministro iraní anunció que su país seguirá cooperando a Bolivia con base en un amplio programa que el presidente Mahmoud Ahmadineyad firmó con Morales durante su

visita a La Paz en septiembre de 2007, cuando firmó un plan de ayuda por 1.000 millones de dólares en varios sectores, incluyendo hidrocarburos.

Ahmadineyad retornó a finales del año pasado y en la ocasión entregó proyectos de su país a Bolivia, entre ellas dos plantas de leche y un hospital.

Mehrabian dijo que país “continuará su colaboración en geología y exploración de yacimientos minerales y litio”. Bolivia posee la mitad de las reservas mundiales de litio, pero además de los iraníes, están interesados en desarrollar las reservas Corea del Sur, donde estuvo Morales la semana pasada, empresas de Japón y de Francia, pero la política del gobierno es industrializar ese estratégico recurso en su país.

El gobierno coreano aprobó un crédito a Bolivia por 250 millones que financiarán la construcción de puentes en varias regiones, dijo Morales. Corea del Sur es el principal comprador de minerales bolivianos. □

## Revocan orden de prisión del presidente Santos en Ecuador

QUITO (AP) - La justicia revocó una orden de prisión emitida hace dos años en contra del presidente colombiano Juan Manuel Santos, entonces ministro de Defensa, informaron el lunes el abogado defensor y el juez de la causa.

Edmundo Solís, abogado defensor de oficio, en entrevista con AP, señaló: “Soy el defensor del presidente Santos, en base a derecho logramos la revocatoria de la orden de prisión del presidente Santos”. El juez de la causa, Daniel Méndez, argumentó ante periodistas que “se ha revocado la orden de prisión preventiva contra Juan Manuel Santos para que tenga igualdad de condiciones”. “No quiere decir que el caso está cerrado, el proceso continúa”, agregó Méndez, magistrado que lleva la causa en la ciudad de Lago Agrio, 180 kilómetros al este de Quito. Santos, cuando era ministro de Defensa, sin avisar ni pedir autorización al gobierno de Ecuador, en marzo del 2008 ordenó un ataque militar a un campamento de la guerrilla colombiana instalado en suelo ecuatoriano, acción en la que murieron 25 personas, entre ellos el jefe rebelde Raúl Reyes.

Ecuador rompió relaciones diplomáticas aduciendo violación de su soberanía, y se abrió un proceso judicial, que involucra Santos, al jefe del ejército y a dos generales colombianos. □

## Comienza perforación para rescatar a mineros chilenos

SANTIAGO DE CHILE (AP) - Una de las dos máquinas que perforarán ductos para extraer a los 33 mineros sepultados desde hace 25 días comienzan este lunes la lenta tarea, que llevará al menos tres meses.

La perforación de uno de los ductos sufrió una leve demora porque faltaba una pieza o martillo que debía traerse desde Alemania. El elemento llegó la mañana de este lunes a Santiago y de inmediato un avión militar de transporte lo condujo hasta Copiapó, ciudad distante 50 kilómetros del yacimiento de oro y cobre donde se encuentra sepultados los mineros a 700 metros de profundidad.

Las autoridades confirmaron que de inmediato sería montada en la enorme perforadora, que a un ritmo de unos 20 metros diarios horadará el cerro bajo el cual se encuentran los mineros. Pero el ministro de Minería, Laurence Golborne, señaló a la prensa en el campamento

que de todos modos “la máquina va a comenzar a operar en el día de hoy”, antes del montaje del martillo.

Al mismo tiempo, otra máquina perforadora viaja rumbo al campamento proporcionada por una empresa privada para emprender lo que las autoridades llaman la alternativa B de rescate, y que permitiría acelerar la extracción de los trabajadores.

El proceso de bajar y subir las pequeñas jaulas en las que serán colocados los mineros para subirlos, que un astillero de la armada comenzó a fabricar, tomará unas 3 horas para cada uno, por lo cual la tarea demandaría tres o más días.

Por ello, las autoridades y los expertos en la perforación, que pertenecen al consorcio cuprífero estatal Codelco, decidieron utilizar una segunda sonda que alcanzó el refugio de emergencia para perforar una vía alternativa.





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